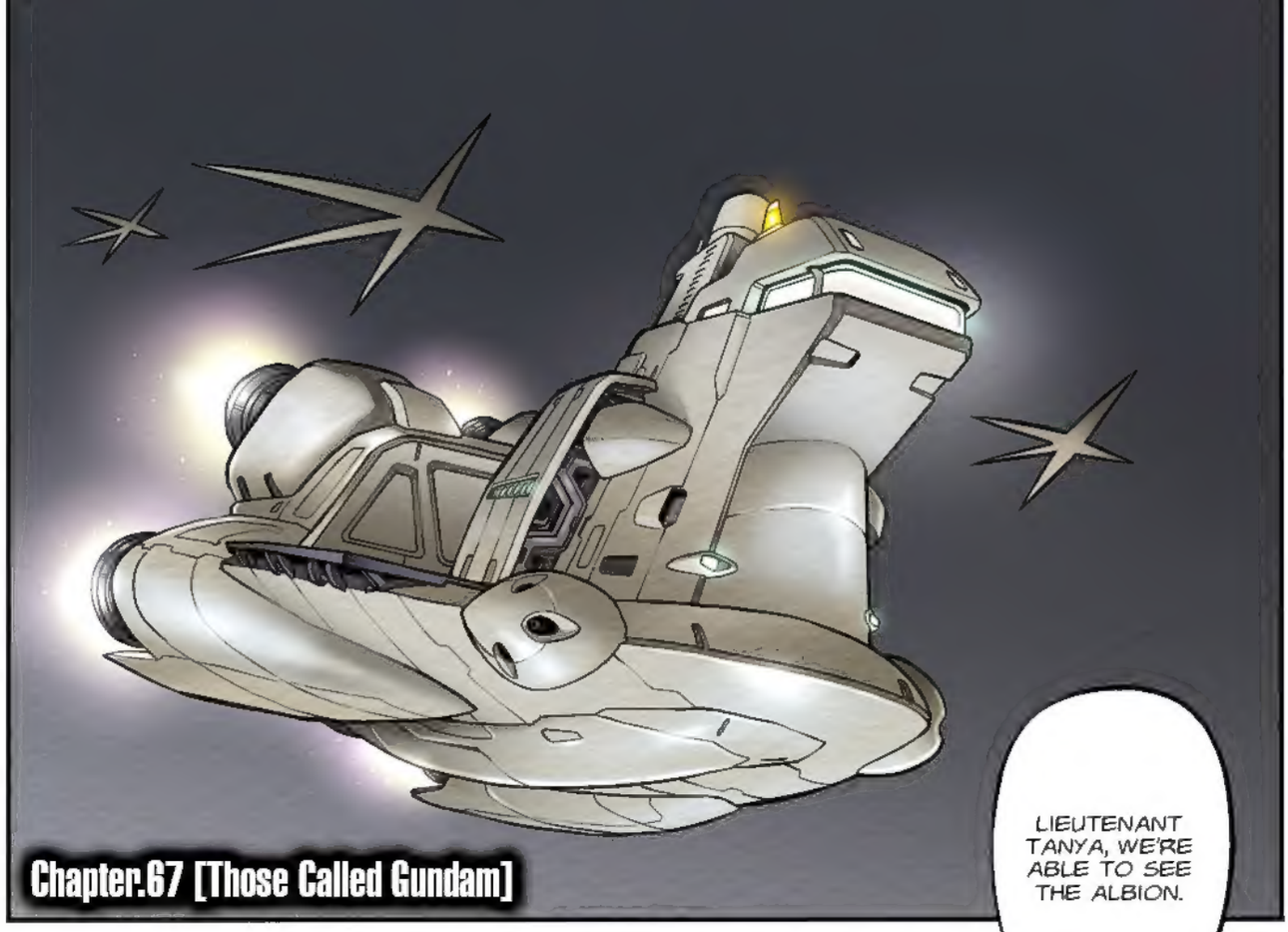
MOBILE SUIT 機動戦士ガンダム0083 REBELLION

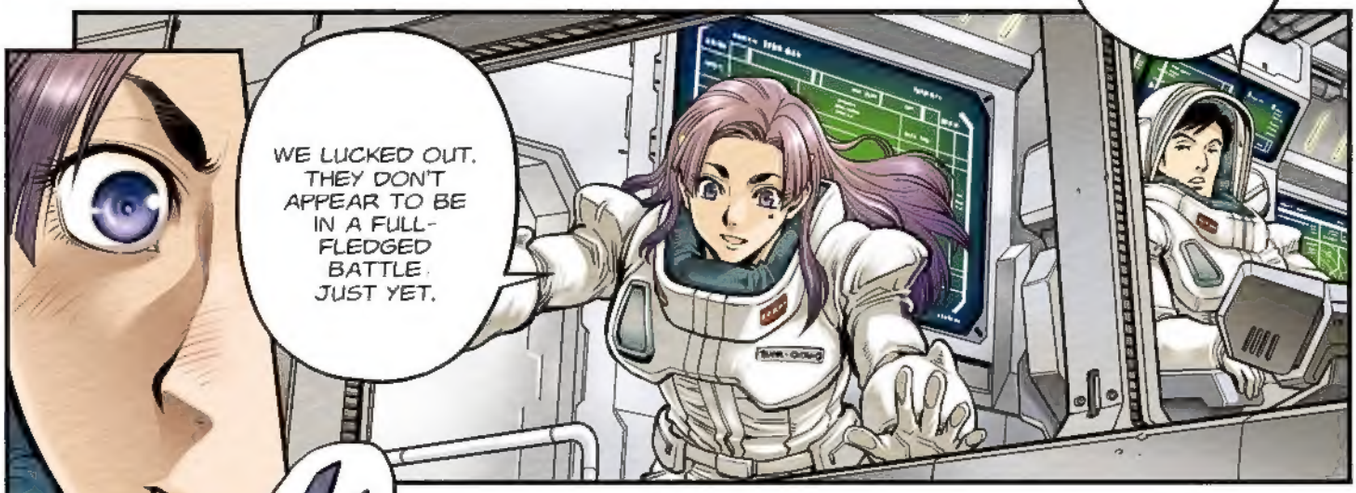
GUNDAM 0083 REBELLION 13

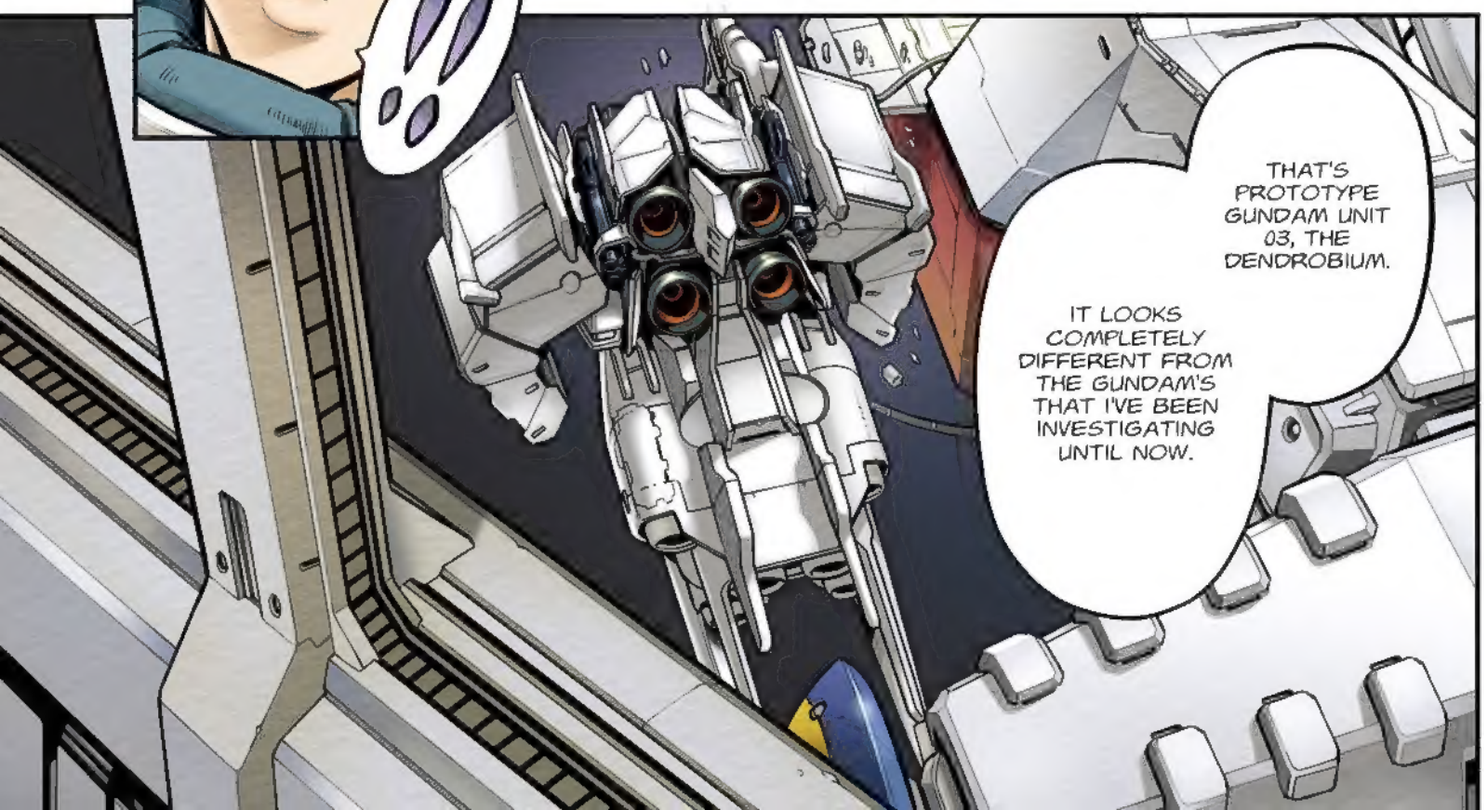
夏元雅人

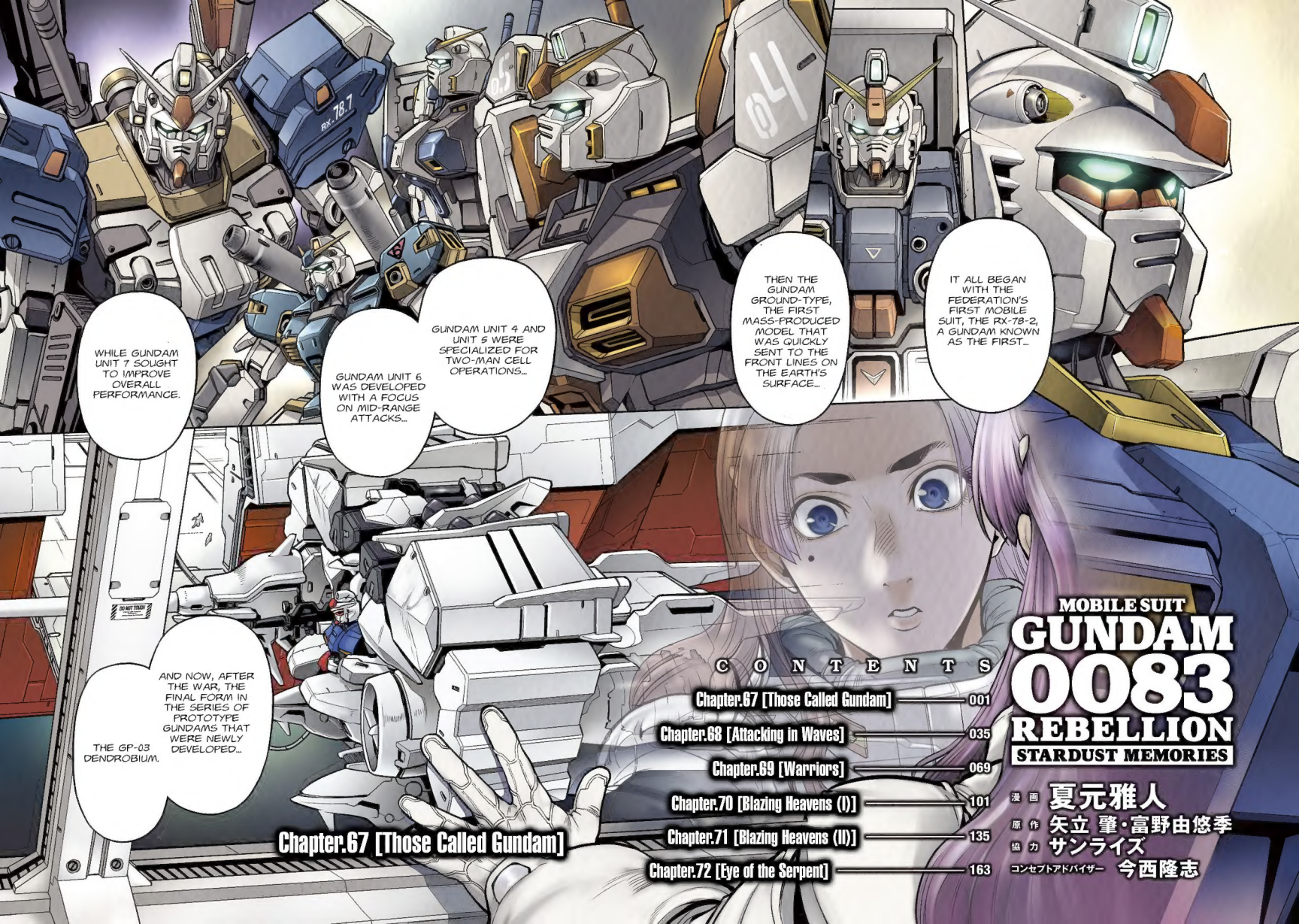
原作 矢立 肇・富野由悠季
協力 サンライズ
コンセプトアドバイザー 今西隆志

Zeonic|Scanlations


Chapter.67 [Those Called Gundam]
LIEUTENANT TANYA, WE'RE ABLE TO SEE THE ALBION.


WE LUCKED OUT. THEY DON'T APPEAR TO BE IN A FULL-FLEDGED BATTLE JUST YET.


THAT'S PROTOTYPE GUNDAM UNIT 03, THE DENDROBIUM.
IT LOOKS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE GUNDAM'S THAT I'VE BEEN INVESTIGATING UNTIL NOW.


IT ALL BEGAN WITH THE FEDERATION'S FIRST MOBILE SUIT, THE RX-78-2, A GUNDAM KNOWN AS THE FIRST...
THEN THE GUNDAM GROUND-TYPE, THE FIRST MASS-PRODUCED MODEL THAT WAS QUICKLY SENT TO THE FRONT LINES ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE...
GUNDAM UNIT 4 AND UNIT 5 WERE SPECIALIZED FOR TWO-MAN CELL OPERATIONS...
GUNDAM UNIT 6 WAS DEVELOPED WITH A FOCUS ON MID-RANGE ATTACKS...
WHILE GUNDAM UNIT 7 SOUGHT TO IMPROVE OVERALL PERFORMANCE.
AND NOW, AFTER THE WAR, THE FINAL FORM IN THE SERIES OF PROTOTYPE GUNDAMS THAT WERE NEWLY DEVELOPED...
THE GP-03 DENDROBIUM.
DO NOT TOUCH
RX-78-7
04
05

MOBILE SUIT
GUNDAM 0083
REBELLION
STARDUST MEMORIES

漫画 夏元雅人
原作 矢立 肇・富野由悠季
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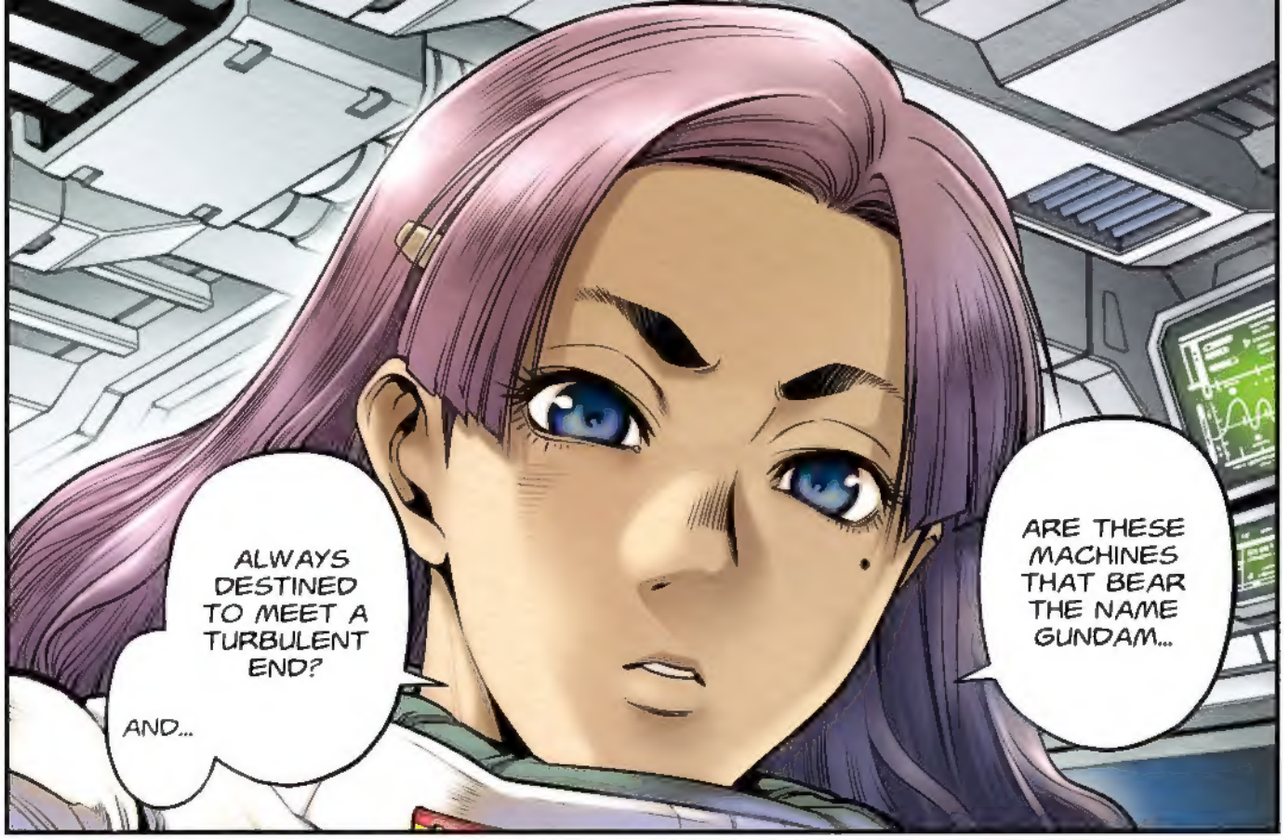
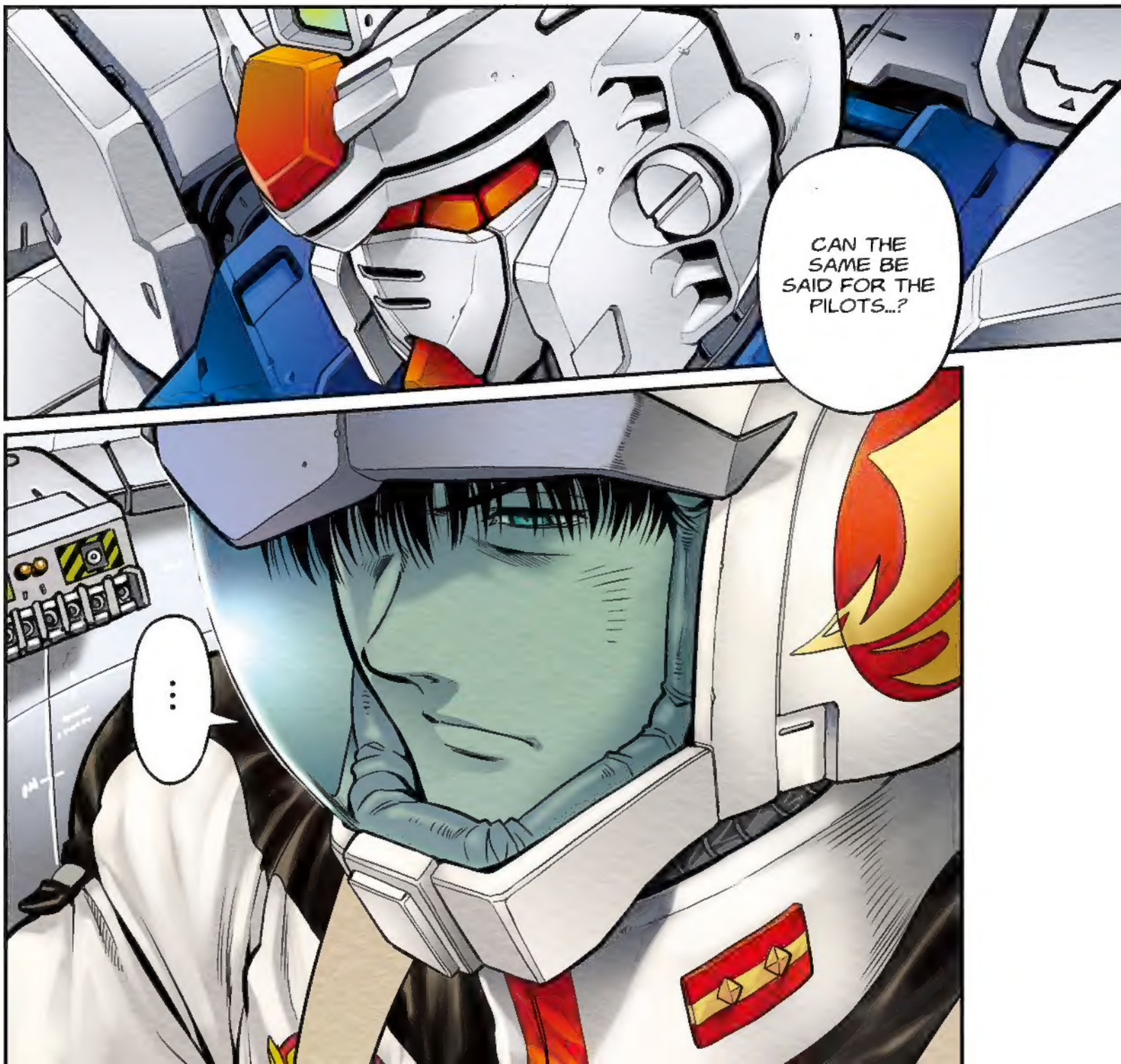
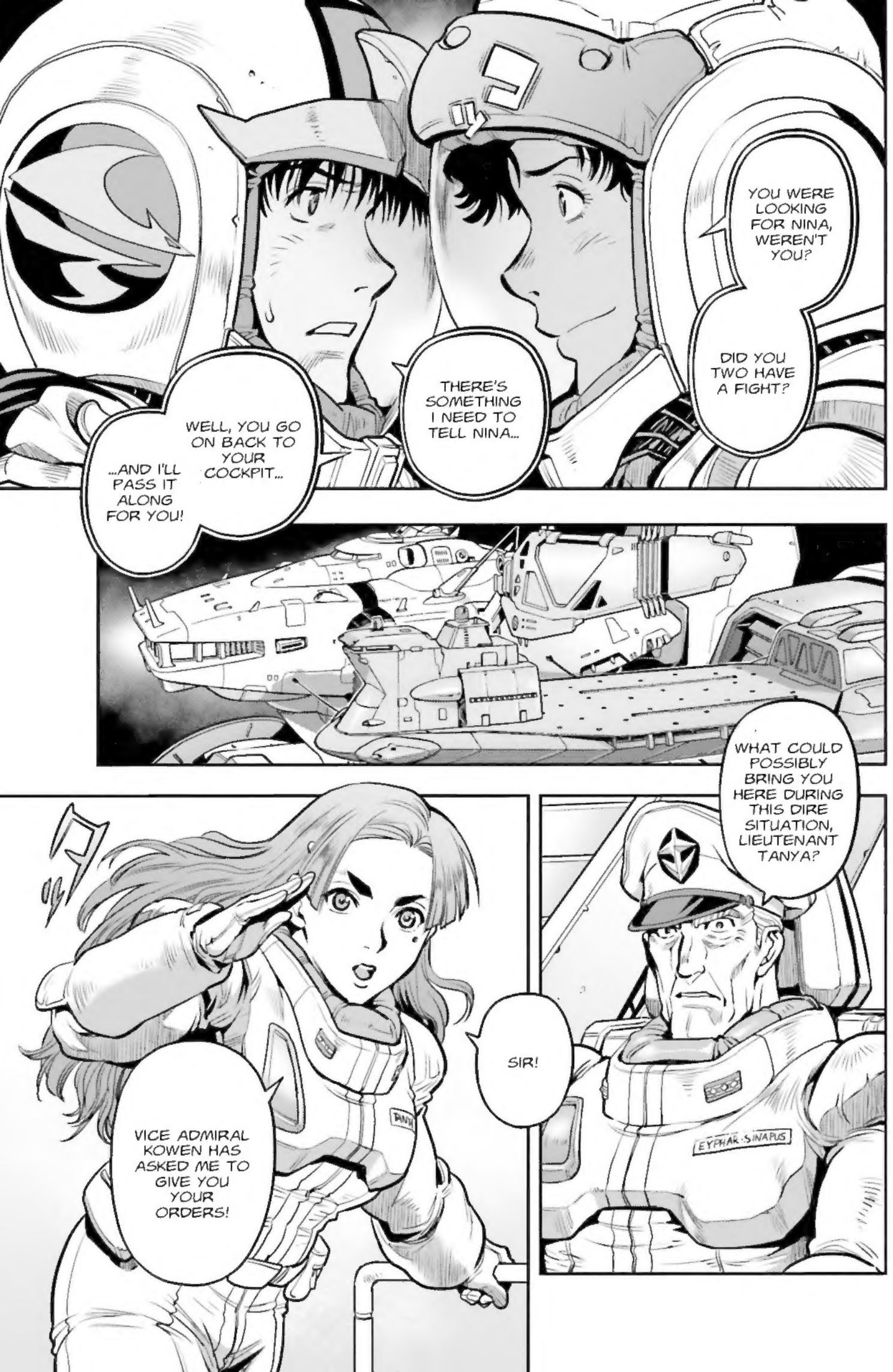
Chapter.67 [Those Called Gundam]

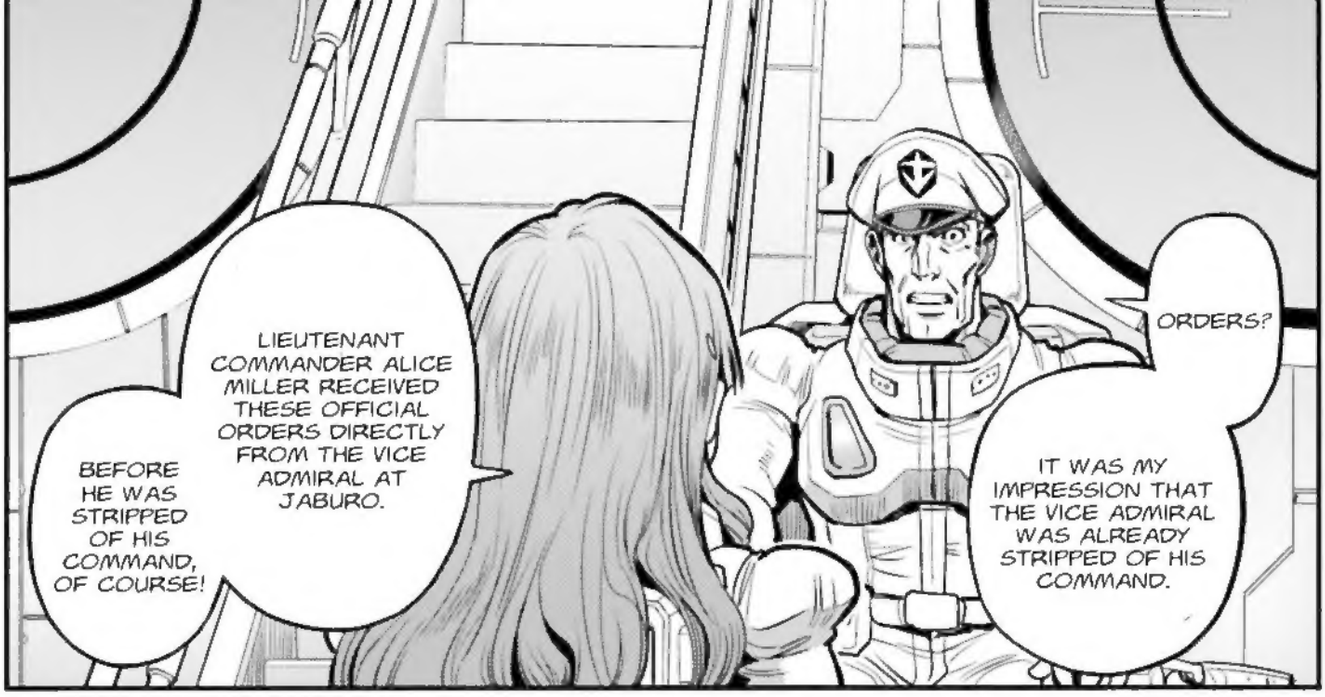

ARE THESE MACHINES THAT BEAR THE NAME GUNDAM...
ALWAYS DESTINED TO MEET A TURBULENT END?
AND...


CAN THE SAME BE SAID FOR THE PILOTS...?
...

IS IT GOING TO TAKE MUCH LONGER TO COMPLETE THE MAINTENANCE WORK, SIMON?
WEAPONS SWAP-OUT AND RESUPPLY IS COMPLETE.
IT'LL TAKE ANOTHER TEN MINUTES TO CALIBRATE THE SYSTEMS.
...

UM...
O-OH, SORRY...
GAH!
MORA...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU? YOU'RE NOT EVEN EQUIPPED WITH A RANDOM BAR.
PILOTS SHOULD BE ON STANDBY IN THEIR COCKPITS!
LIEU-TENANT URAKI!


YOU WERE LOOKING FOR NINA, WEREN'T YOU?
DID YOU TWO HAVE A FIGHT?
THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL NINA...
WELL, YOU GO ON BACK TO YOUR COCKPIT...
...AND I'LL PASS IT ALONG FOR YOU!
WHAT COULD POSSIBLY BRING YOU HERE DURING THIS DIRE SITUATION, LIEUTENANT TANYA?
EYPHAR·SINAPUS
SIR!
VICE ADMIRAL KOWEN HAS ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU YOUR ORDERS!


ORDERS?
IT WAS MY IMPRESSION THAT THE VICE ADMIRAL WAS ALREADY STRIPPED OF HIS COMMAND.
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ALICE MILLER RECEIVED THESE OFFICIAL ORDERS DIRECTLY FROM THE VICE ADMIRAL AT JABURO.
BEFORE HE WAS STRIPPED OF HIS COMMAND, OF COURSE!

THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS.

THE ALBION IS HEREBY RELIEVED OF ITS DUTY TO PURSUE THE DELAZ FLEET!
THE VICE ADMIRAL HIMSELF HAS ASSUMED FULL RESPONSIBILITY...
... FOR THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE THEFT OF THE NUCLEAR WARHEAD.
TANYA CHERNO

... WITHOUT RECEIVING ORDERS FROM THE ORBITAL FLEET.
THESE ORDERS WILL ALLOW YOU TO WITHDRAW FROM THE CURRENT SECTOR...
HE'S PLANNING ON TAKING SOLE RESPONSIBILITY?!
...
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF WITHDRAWING AT THIS TIME.
WHY IS THAT?
THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO MARCH TO CERTAIN DEATH IN VAIN.
WE ARE THE ONES RESPONSIBLE, SO WE CANNOT RETREAT...

THE THEFT OF UNIT 2 IN AUSTRALIA LED TO A NUCLEAR ATTACK ON THE NAVAL REVIEW CEREMONY.
THIS IN TURN LED TO THE BARBARIC ACT OF DROPPING A COLONY ON THE EARTH.
THAT IS PRECISELY WHY WE CANNOT JUST *WALK AWAY* FROM THIS!
I UNDERSTAND YOUR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY, CAPTAIN.
BUT, YOUR FATE DEPENDS ON IT, AND THIS IS A WATERSHED MOMENT FOR YOU.
MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION!

WHAT I'M FAILING TO UNDERSTAND IS JUST WHY, GIVEN THE SITUATION, YOU CAME DIRECTLY TO INFORM US.
WHY IS THE INTELLIGENCE BUREAU SO SUPPORTIVE OF US?

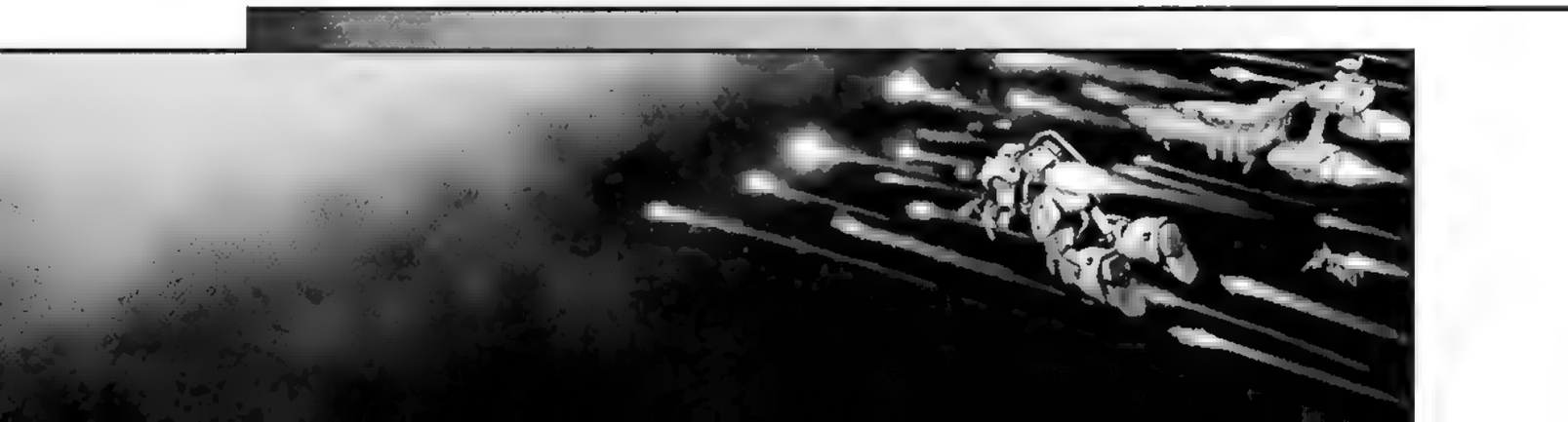
I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY I'M PERSONALLY OBLIGATED...
PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THE COMMANDER AND I ARE BOTH CONCERNED ABOUT THE ALBION.

... AND THE INTELLIGENCE BUREAU CAN'T BE TOO INVOLVED IN THIS MATTER.
COMMS LEAVE BEHIND RECORDS...

SO THEN I TAKE IT YOU'LL CONTINUE TO TAKE ORDERS FROM THE ORBITAL FLEET...
... AND FIGHT ALONGSIDE THE ZEON MARINES WHO HAVE SWITCHED SIDES?
WHILE I DO APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN, IT DOESN'T CHANGE OUR RESOLVE!

I UNDERSTAND, AS UNFORTUNATE AS THAT MAY BE.
...
NO, WE WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE AS AN AUTONOMOUS TASK FORCE...
...TO PREVENT THE DELAZ FLEET FROM DROPPING THE COLONY!

I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK, CAPTAIN!!



WE HAVE VISUAL CONFIRMATION ON THE FEDDIE'S SOLAR WEAPON!
MINOVSKY DENSITY IS ON THE RISE. THIS IS WHERE OUR DECISIVE BATTLE WILL BE! STAY ON GUARD!
YES, SIR!
COMMANDER GATO, ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT WITH THE BULLET HOLE IN YOUR RIGHT SHOULDER?
I'M NOT HAVING ANY ISSUES. BESIDES, ONLY THE TWO SABERS FOR THE SUB ARMS ARE OUT OF ACTION.
!!

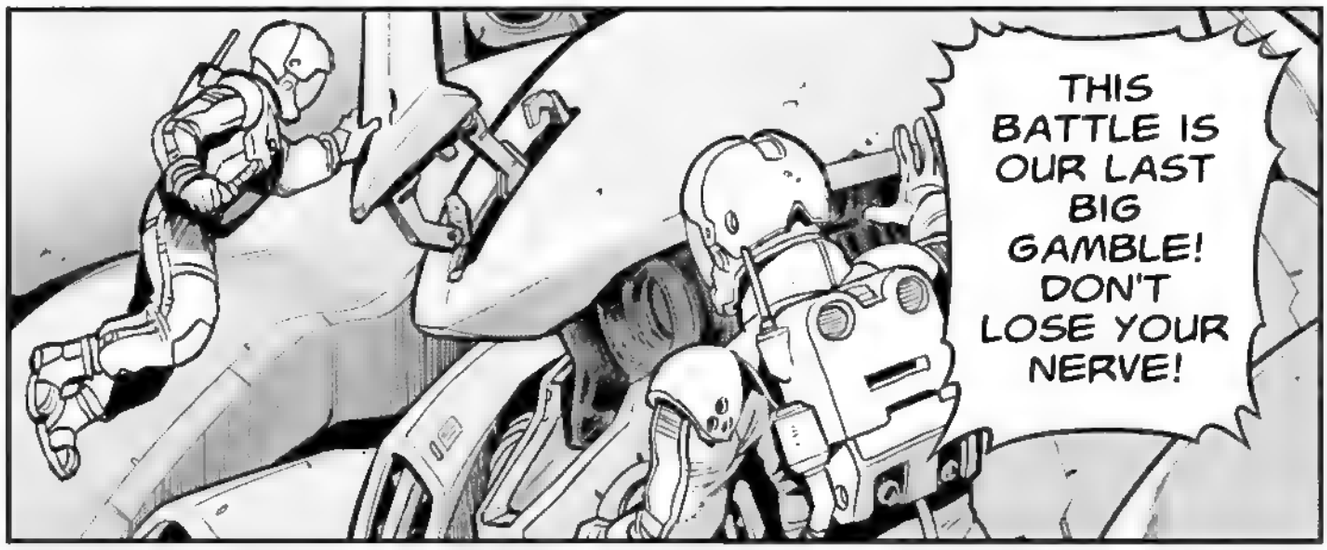
TCH!!
IT'S A MISSILE BARRAGE!

MOBILE FORCES CONFIRMED!
ALL UNITS, SPREAD OUT AND ENGAGE THE ENEMY FLEET!
ALL WE NEED TO DO IS DESTROY THE ENEMY'S SOLAR SYSTEM!
THEN THIS BATTLE WILL BE OVER!

GATO'S STARTED A FIGHT WITH THE FEDERATION FLEET!
WELL, WE'LL HAVE TO ATTACK HIM FROM BEHIND WHILE HE'S STUCK THERE!
DON'T EASE UP ON OUR SHIP'S PURSUIT!
AS YOU WISH, BUT, WELL...
WHAT IS IT KOSCEL?
WHY DON'T YOU RETURN TO THE BRIDGE, MS. CIMA?

I'M IN THE HANGAR SWAPPING OUT THE STURM BOOSTER ON THE GERBERA TETRA.
AS SOON AS THE MAINTENANCE IS DONE, I'M TAKING IT OUT!
PLEASE DON'T BE TOO RECKLESS, MA'AM!
WE'RE ONLY MARINES BECAUSE OF YOU, MS. CIMA.
HUH?
COULD YOU POSSIBLY SAY ANYTHING MORE PATHETIC?!
I HAVE MY MEN TO FEED!!
THERE'S NO WAY I'LL DIE!

SHE'S MORE RILED UP THAN USUAL?
O-OF COURSE, MA'AM!
IT WAS MINE, TO BEGIN WITH.
DON'T BOTHER COM-PLAINING ABOUT IT, CLARA.
AND PUT IT ON THE GERBERA!
WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, REMOVE THE HORN FROM CLARA'S SUIT...

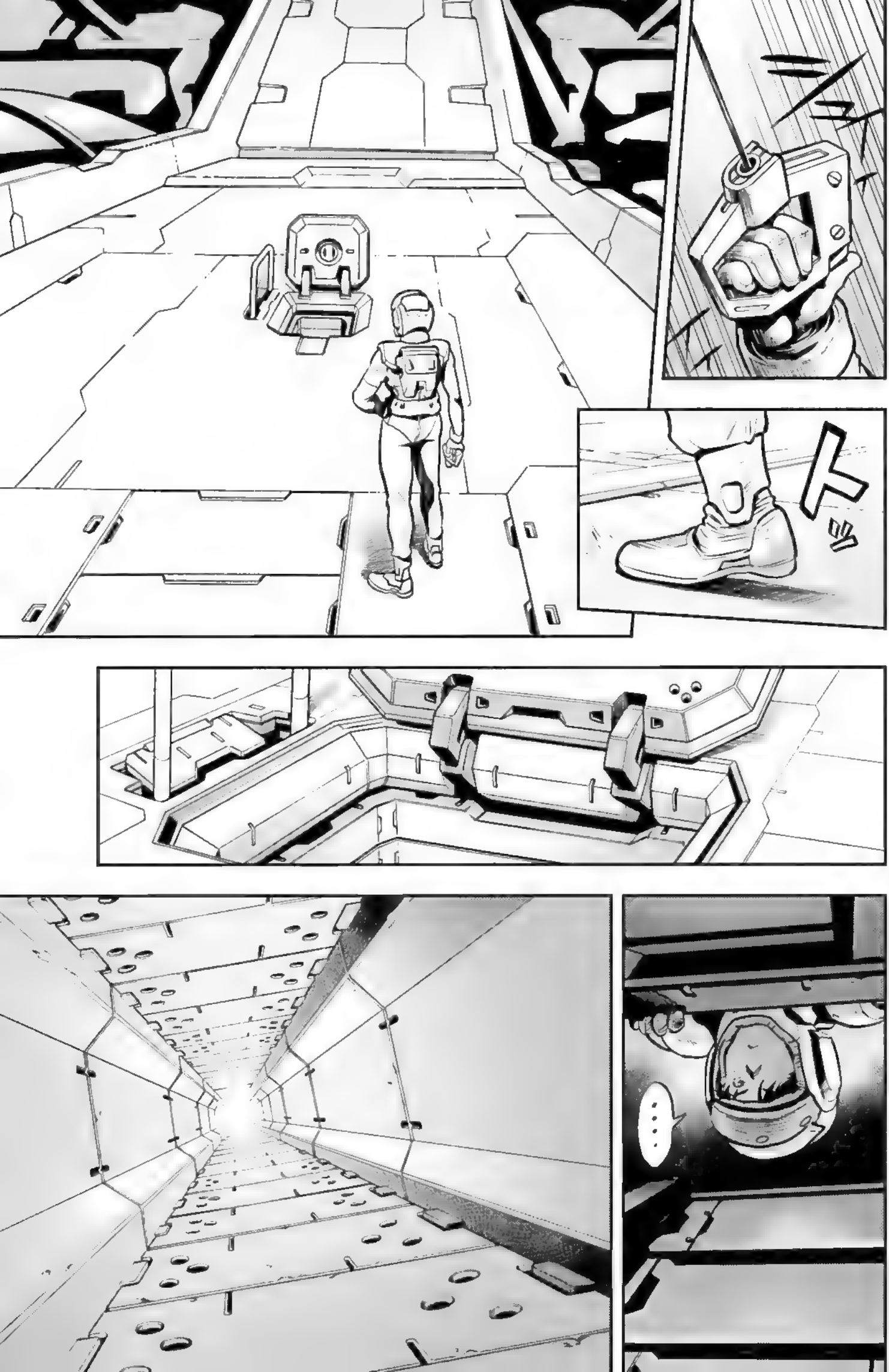

THIS BATTLE IS OUR LAST BIG GAMBLE! DON'T LOSE YOUR NERVE!

ALL OVER AGAIN FROM LEVEL 4.
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO START THE SYSTEM CONNECTION FOR THE STAMEN AND ORCHIS...
THERE'S A BOOT ERROR ON THE DENDROBIUM! IT WON'T STARTUP!

NO! WE DON'T HAVE TIME!
DO I REBOOT THE BASE SYSTEM?
UGH, WHY ISN'T IT CONNECTING?

I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!
GIVE ME A MINUTE!
LUCETTE... NINA IS...

...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I FIGURED YOU'D BE ADJUSTING THE INPUT...
DIRECTLY FROM THE CENTRAL BLOCK WHEN FIXING THE SYSTEM ERROR...

NINA!!
JUST GIVE ME A MINUTE OR TWO...

I'M MERELY COAXING A SPOILED BRAT A LITTLE...

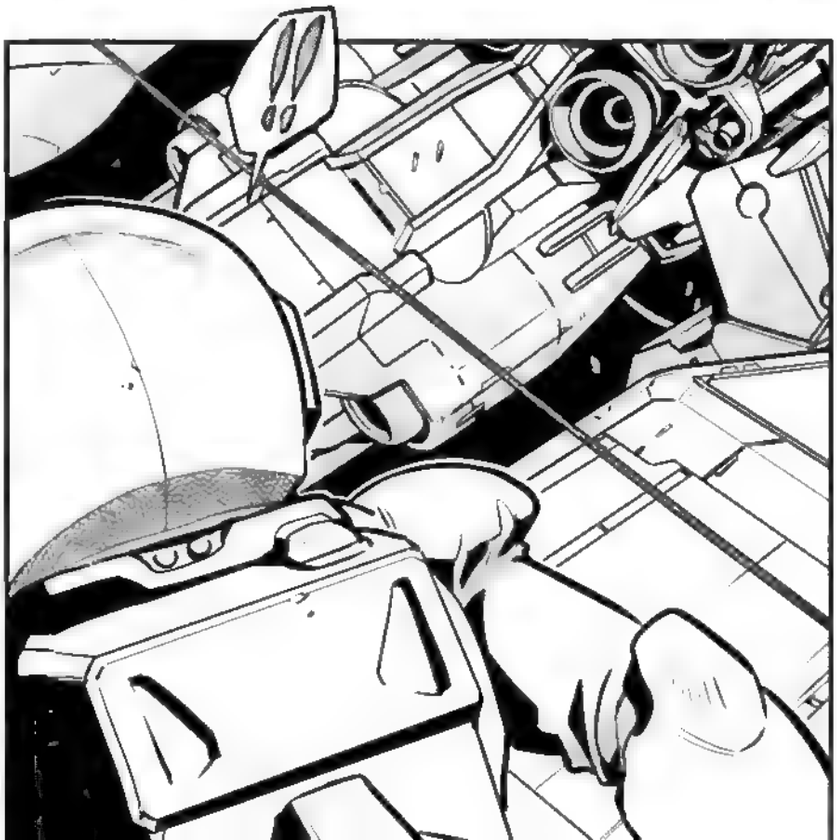
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU SCOLD HIM FROM THE OUTSIDE, HE WON'T LISTEN TO YOU.
WELL...
I AM THE ONE WHO BUILT THE COMPUTING ALGORITHM FOR THE GP SERIES.
THAT'S WHY HE'S NOT VERY STRAIGHT-FORWARD
NOT ALL THAT FLEXIBLE...
OR NOT VERY PRETTY...
HE'S REALLY TWISTED AND JUMBLED...
A LOT LIKE ME.
Pi
!?
YES! WE'RE IN THE BOOT SEQUENCE!
!
NINA, HUH?

OPS TEAM, GET A MOVE ON!
DAMMIT! I'VE GOTTA GIVE NINA CREDIT...
IT IS HER GUNDAM, AFTER ALL.
NINA!
"WHEN ALL OF THIS IS OVER, LET'S GO TO EARTH TOGETHER..."
THAT'S WHAT LIEUTENANT URAKI ASKED ME TO TELL YOU.

THE GUNDAM WILL BE ORDERED TO SORTIE RIGHT AWAY!
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU TWO WERE FIGHTING, BUT YOU SHOULD SAY SOMETHING TO HIM BEFORE-HAND...
NOT NOW...
I TOLD YOU, I'M JUST AS TWISTED AND JUMBLED AS THIS GUNDAM.

BESIDES, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING TO SAY TO KOU...
SO...

キュウ
WAIT JUST A DAMN MINUTE!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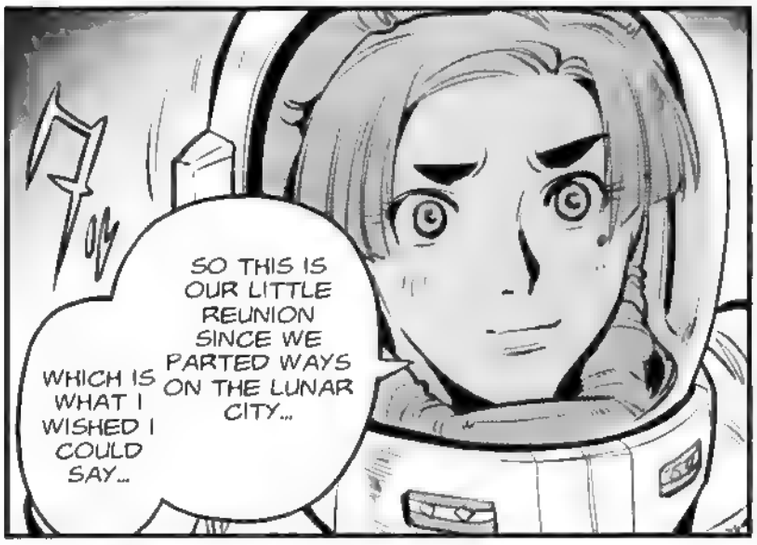
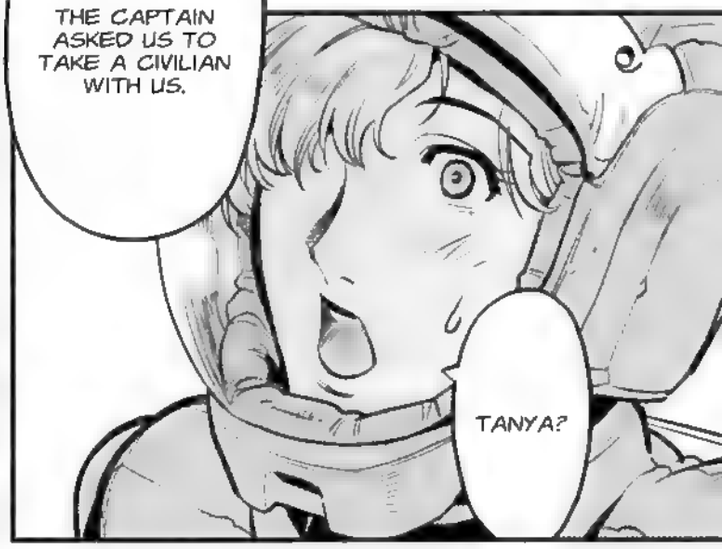
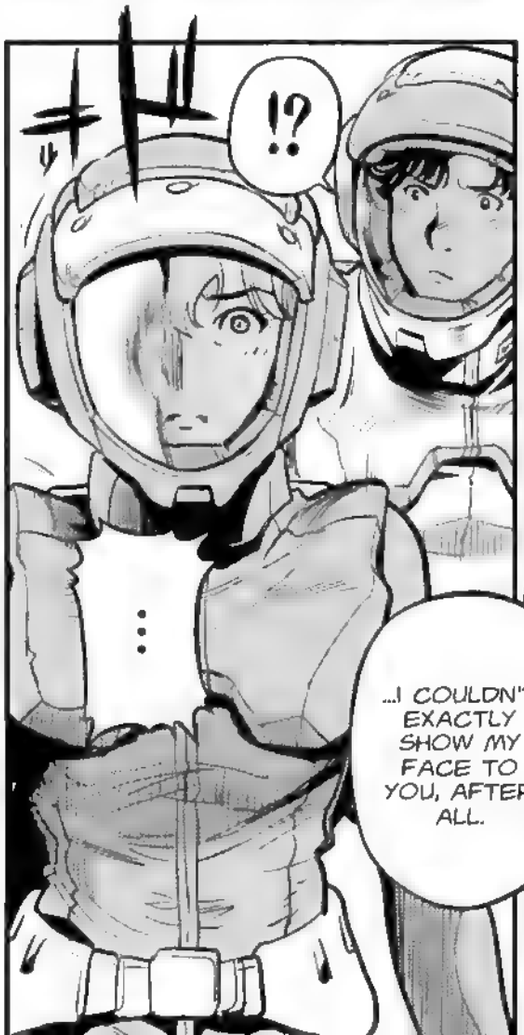
NINA! DID YOU NOT HEAR THE BROADCAST IN THE SHIP?


SO THIS IS OUR LITTLE REUNION SINCE WE PARTED WAYS ON THE LUNAR CITY...
WHICH IS WHAT I WISHED I COULD SAY...


THE CAPTAIN ASKED US TO TAKE A CIVILIAN WITH US.
TANYA?


!?
...

HUH?
...BUT I WAS THERE FOR THE ENTIRE DEBACLE ON LA VIE EN ROSE!
BUT SINCE YOU BROUGHT ALONG SOME ZEON SOLDIER...
...I COULDN'T EXACTLY SHOW MY FACE TO YOU, AFTER ALL.

NOW, WE DON'T HAVE TIME!
PACK UP YOUR PERSONAL EFFECTS AND MOVE TO THE TRANSPORT SHIP!
I-I PLAN TO SEE THIS THROUGH UNTIL THE VERY END.
OH, GIVE IT UP ALREADY!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH YOUR SELFISHNESS HAS CAUSED OTHERS TO WORRY?
LIKE YOUR FRIEND, YOU LEFT BEHIND ON THE LA VIE EN ROSE?
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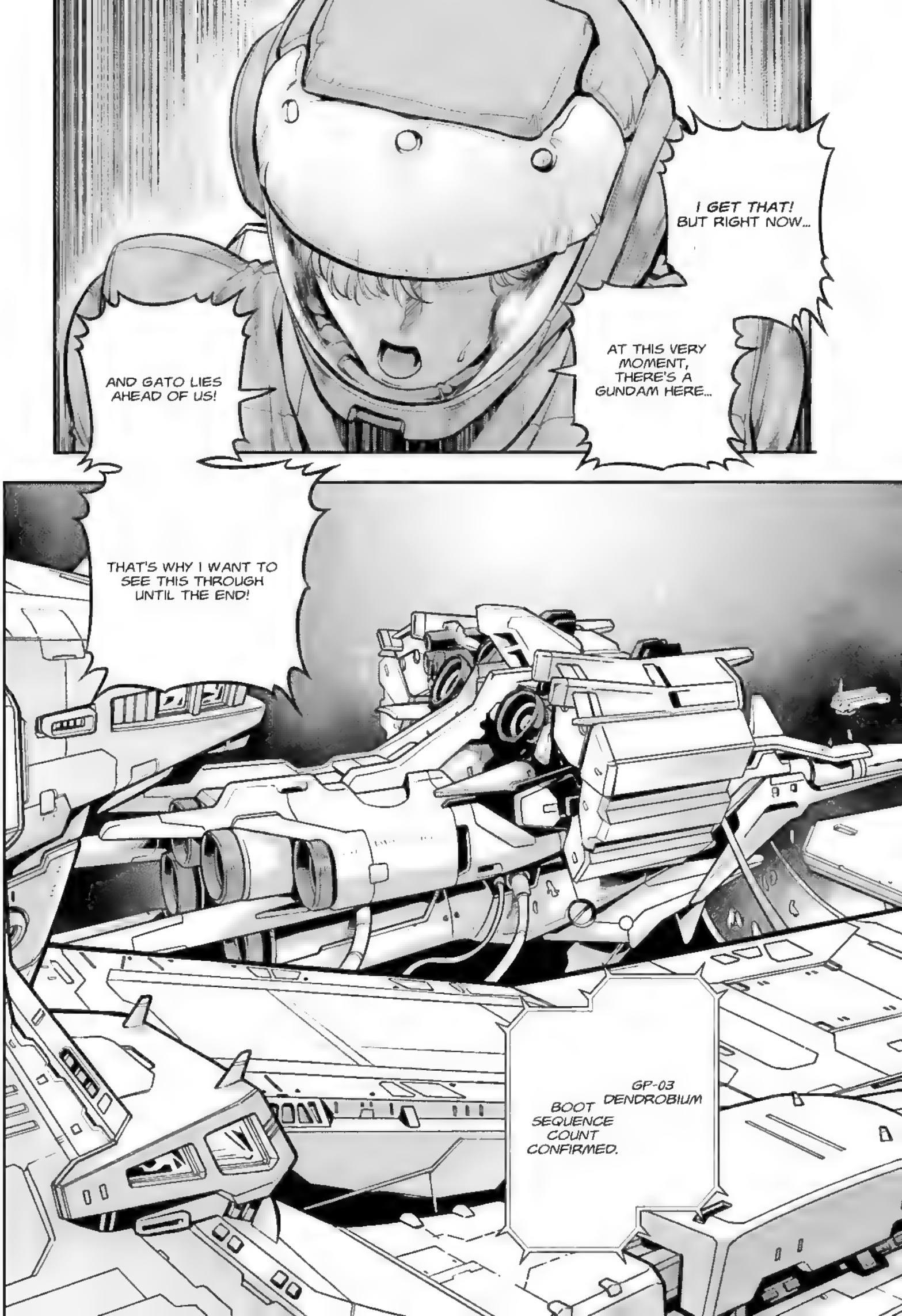
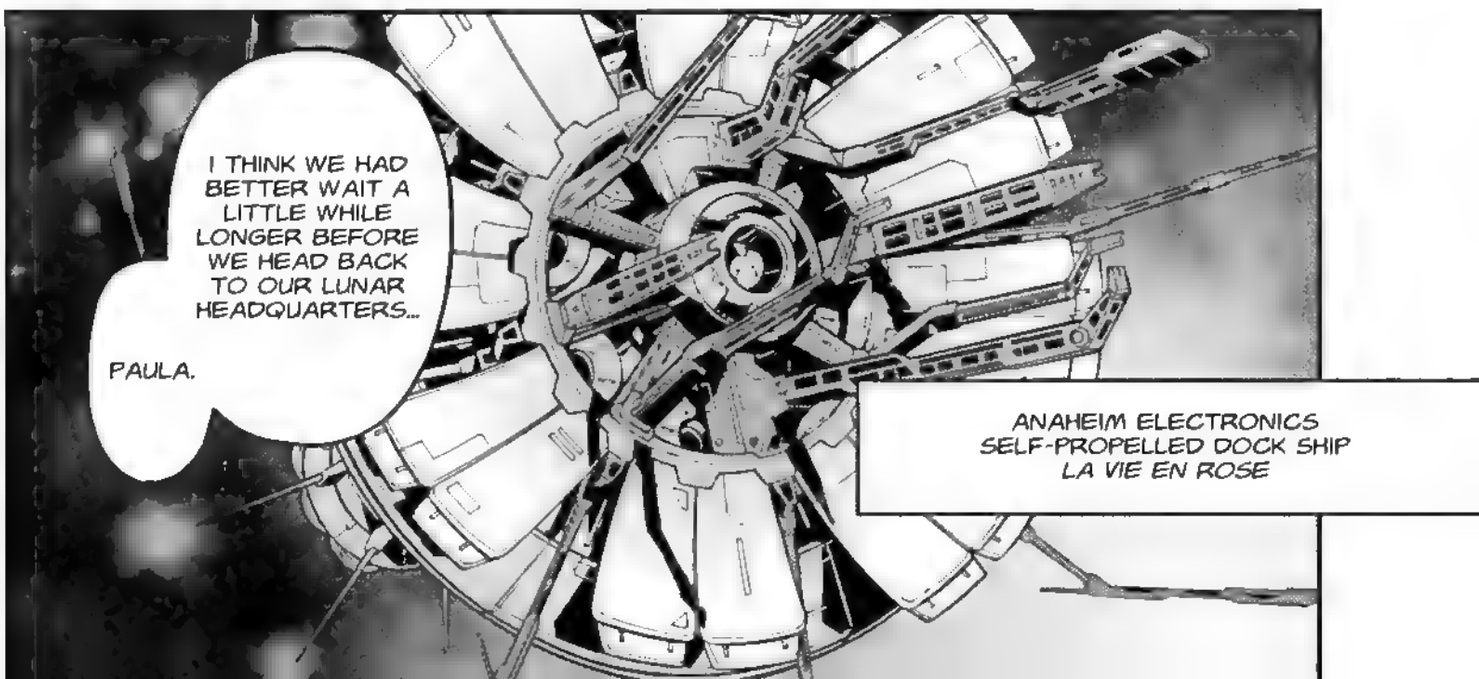
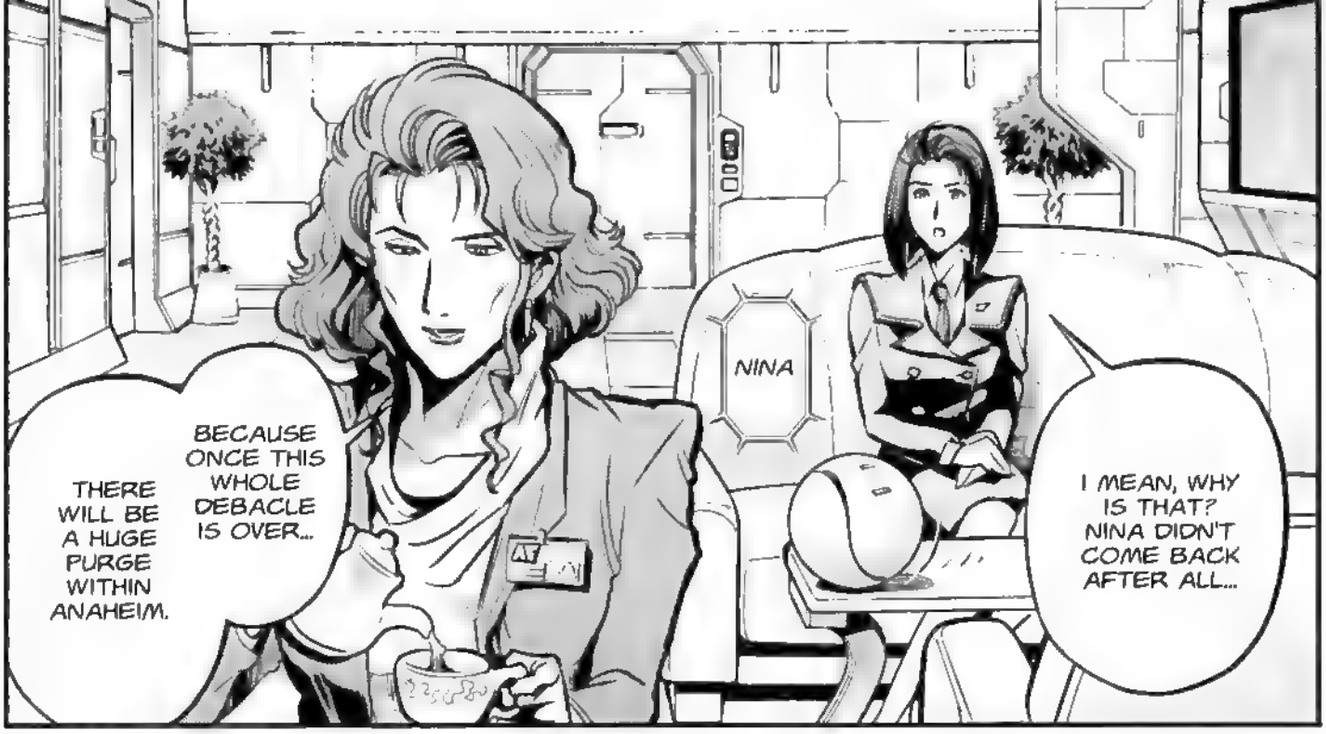
DO YOU MEAN PAULA?
YES!!
SHE HAS A LOT OF REGRETS AND SAYS SHE SHOULD'VE PUSHED YOU TO STAY!
I GET THAT PEOPLE ARE WORRIED...

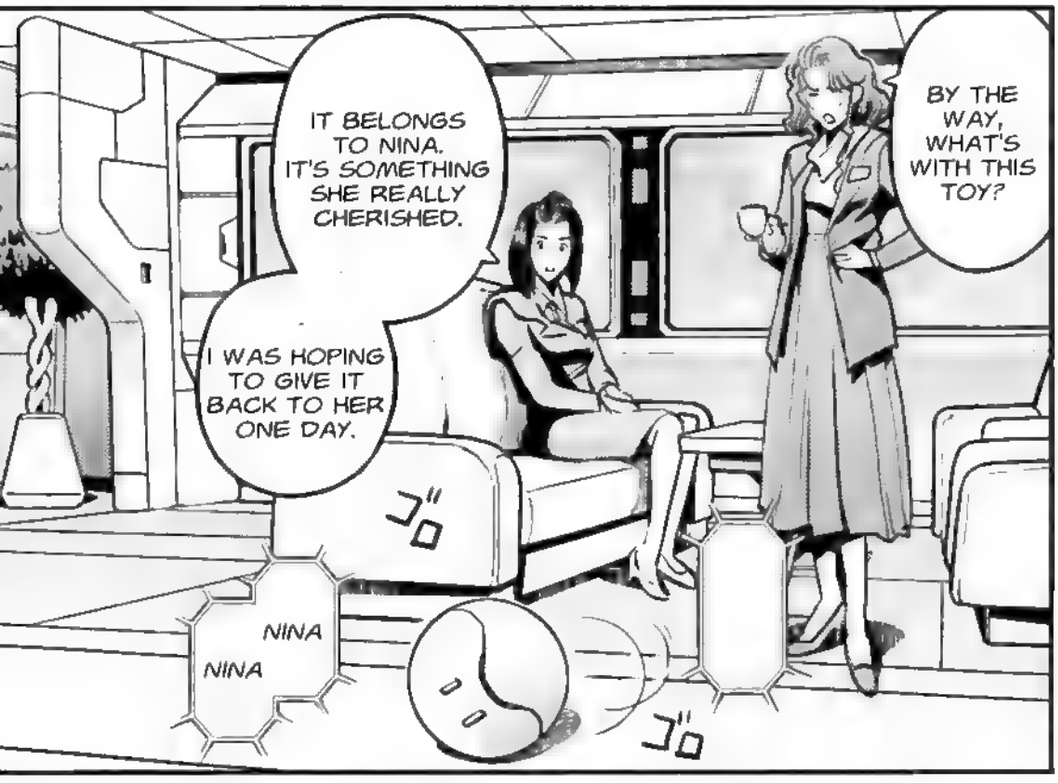

I GET THAT! BUT RIGHT NOW...
AT THIS VERY MOMENT, THERE'S A GUNDAM HERE...
AND GATO LIES AHEAD OF US!
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO SEE THIS THROUGH UNTIL THE END!
GP-03 DENDROBIUM BOOT SEQUENCE COUNT CONFIRMED.

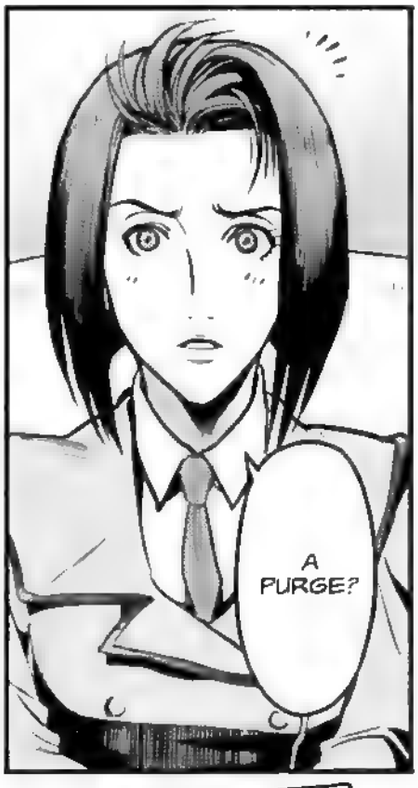
WEAPON SYSTEM, ALL CONTAINER CONNECTION CHECK.
NO ISSUES.
NORMAL ACTIVATION!
WE CAN HEAD OUT!
...
THEN DO WHATEVER THE HELL YOU WANT.

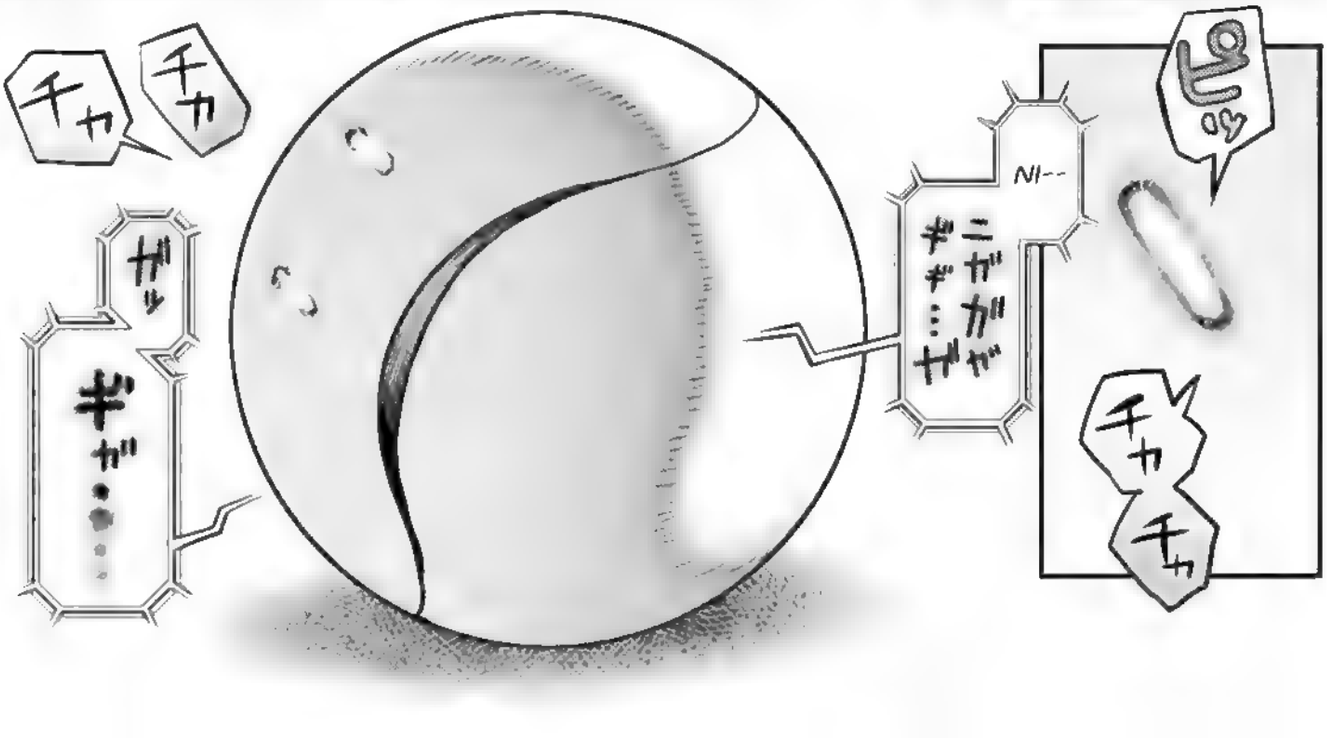
I TOLD YOU IT WAS MY JOB...
TO RESEARCH AND DOCUMENT THE LINEAGE OF GUNDAMS.
I'LL SEE TO IT THAT YOU DO THE SAME.
AS THE SUBJECT OF AN INVESTIGATION!
...


I THINK WE HAD BETTER WAIT A LITTLE WHILE LONGER BEFORE WE HEAD BACK TO OUR LUNAR HEADQUARTERS...
PAULA.
ANAHEIM ELECTRONICS
SELF-PROPELLED DOCK SHIP
LA VIE EN ROSE


NINA
I MEAN, WHY IS THAT? NINA DIDN'T COME BACK AFTER ALL...
BECAUSE ONCE THIS WHOLE DEBACLE IS OVER...
THERE WILL BE A HUGE PURGE WITHIN ANAHEIM.


BY THE WAY, WHAT'S WITH THIS TOY?
IT BELONGS TO NINA. IT'S SOMETHING SHE REALLY CHERISHED.
I WAS HOPING TO GIVE IT BACK TO HER ONE DAY.
NINA
NINA
ゴロ
ゴロ


A PURGE?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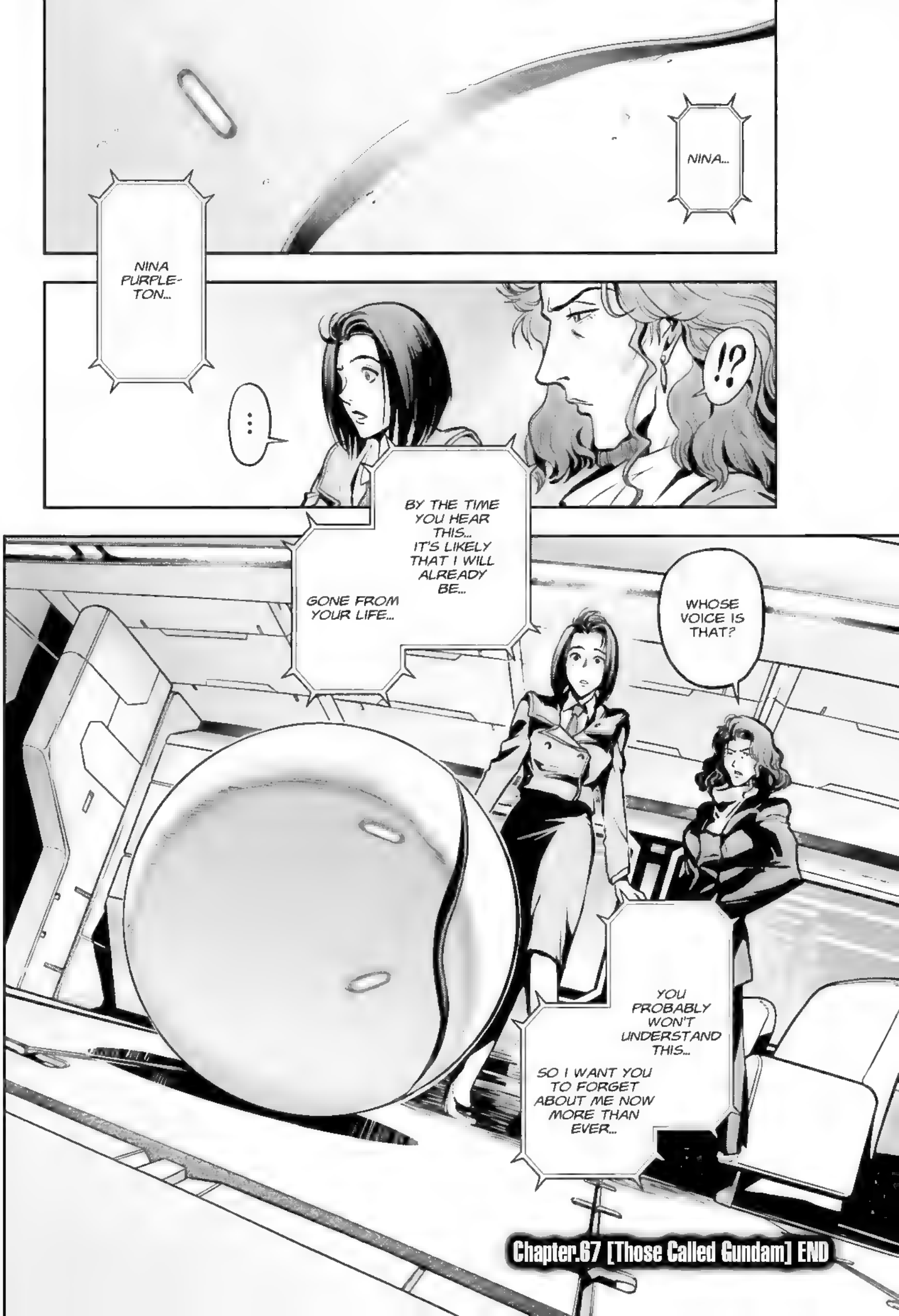

NINA...
NINA PURPLE-TON...
...
!?
BY THE TIME YOU HEAR THIS... IT'S LIKELY THAT I WILL ALREADY BE...
GONE FROM YOUR LIFE...
WHOSE VOICE IS THAT?
YOU PROBABLY WON'T UNDERSTAND THIS...
SO I WANT YOU TO FORGET ABOUT ME NOW MORE THAN EVER...

Chapter.67 [Those Called Gundam] END

MOBILE SUIT

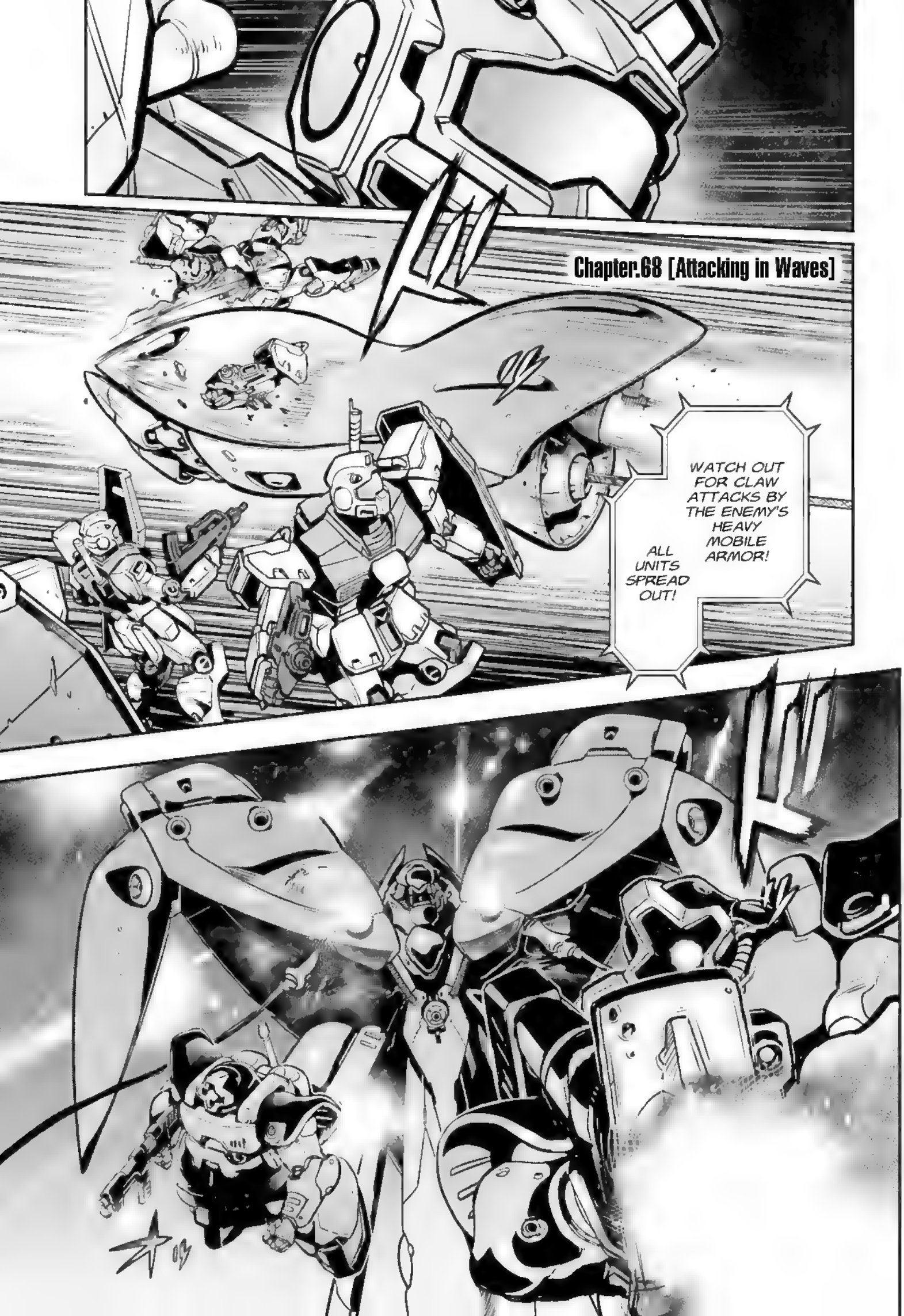
GUNDAM 0083 REBELLION

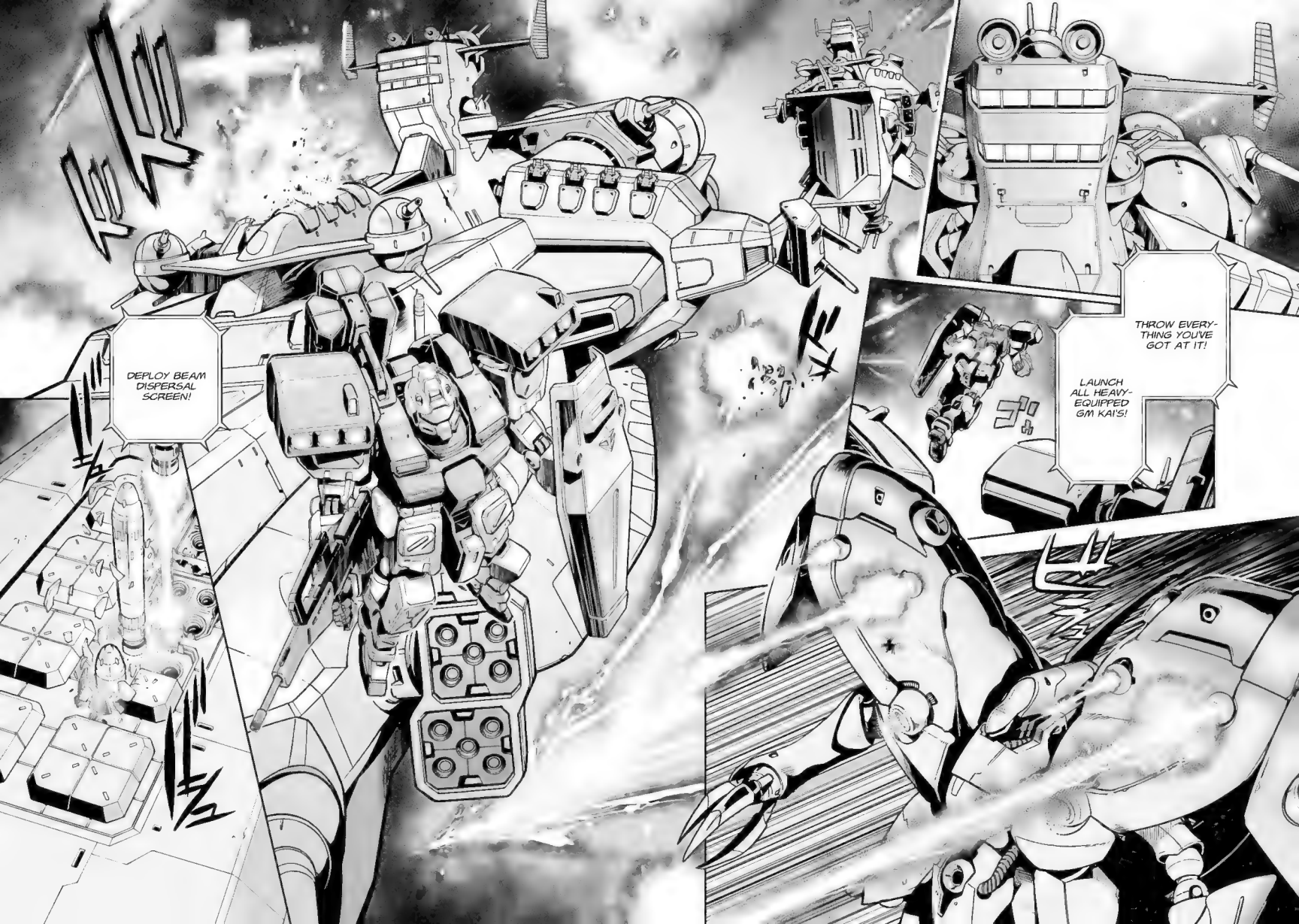
STARDUST MEMORIES

MOBILE SUIT

GUNDAM 0083 REBELLION

STARDUST MEMORIES


Chapter.68 [Attacking in Waves]
WATCH OUT FOR CLAW ATTACKS BY THE ENEMY'S HEAVY MOBILE ARMOR!
ALL UNITS SPREAD OUT!


DEPLOY BEAM DISPERSAL SCREEN!
THROW EVERY-THING YOU'VE GOT AT IT!
LAUNCH ALL HEAVY-EQUIPPED GM KAI'S!

LAY DOWN A BARRAGE! DO NOT LET THE ENEMY MOBILE ARMOR ANYWHERE NEAR US!

COMMANDER GATO! WE'RE UP AGAINST THE FEDDIE'S MAIN FLEET!
IF THIS KEEPS UP, OUR LOSSES ARE ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE!
I'M AWARE OF THAT!
STILL... WE CAN'T WITHDRAW FROM HERE.
NOT WHEN IT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF US...
IF WE COULD JUST DESTROY THAT DAMN THING...

WE CAN USE ADMIRAL DELAZ'S OPERATION STARDUST...
...TO DEMONSTRATE OUR CAUSE!!

HMPH!
WHAT COULD THEY POSSIBLY HOPE TO DO...
...NOW THAT THEY'VE LOST THEIR LEADER, DELAZ?

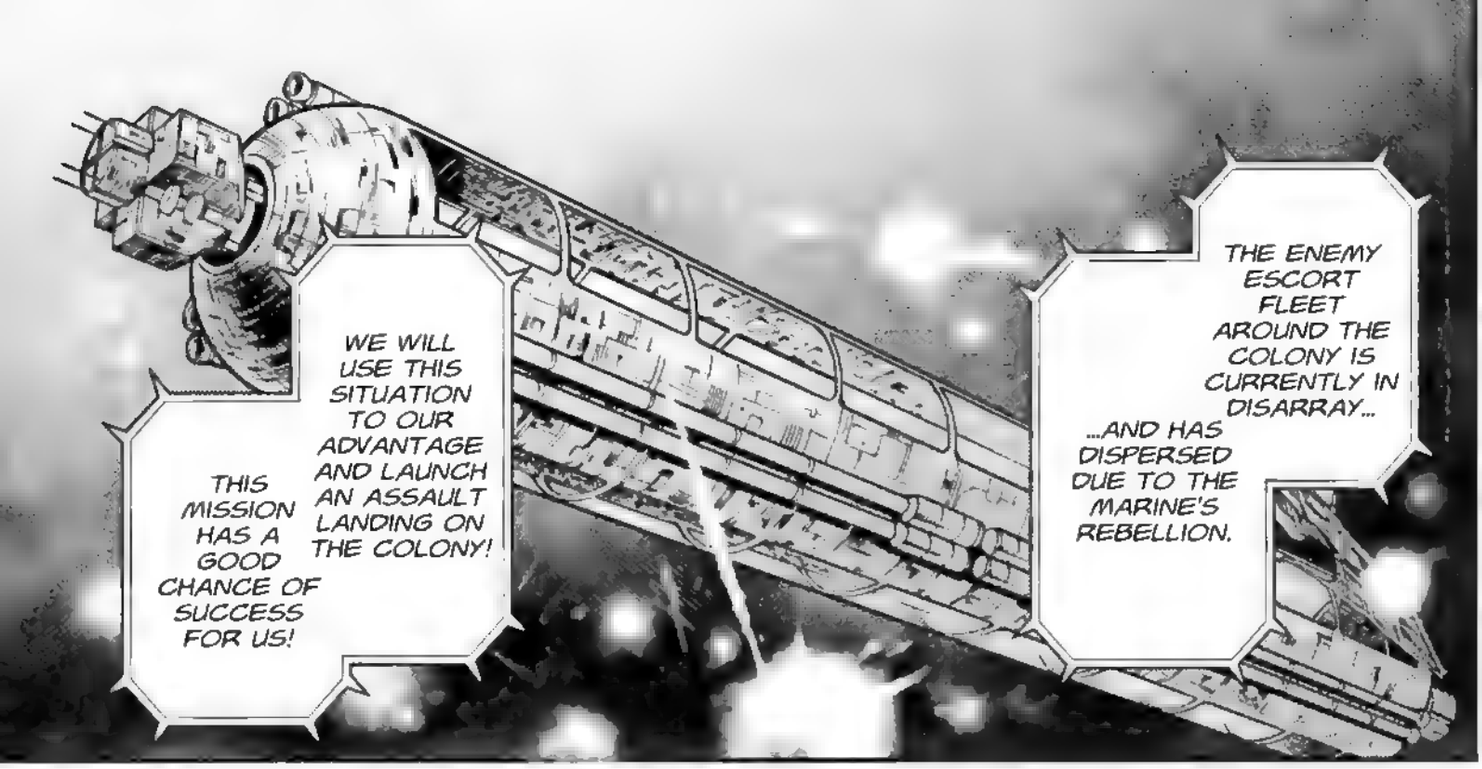
WE HAVE ROUGHLY TWO HOURS UNTIL THE COLONY DROP CROSSES THE POINT OF NO RETURN!
BEGINNING COUNTDOWN TO INITIATE SOLAR SYSTEM II FOCUS COORDINATES!
I'LL SHOW THOSE DAMN REMNANTS JUST HOW FUTILE THEIR EFFORTS REALLY ARE!

THE SOLAR SYSTEM HAS INITIATED A COUNTDOWN FOR THE START OF THE ATTACK.
I'LL PUT IT UP ON ALL THE MONITORS.
ONE AND A HALF HOURS LEFT, HUH...?
LOOKS AS THOUGH OUR EFFORTS ARE LIMITED TO JUST AN HOUR.
LIEUTENANT URAKI, IS THE GUNDAM READY?
YES, SIR!
NO PROBLEMS ON MY END, SIR!
YOU ONLY NEED TO HALT THE ENEMY MOBILE ARMOR'S MOVEMENTS WITH THE GUNDAM.
OUR MISSION IS TO PUT A STOP TO THE COLONY DROP!

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING.
THE ALBION WILL NOW ATTEMPT AN ALL OUT GAMBLE TO CORRECT THE COLONY'S COURSE.

HOW-EVER!
IF WE ARE UNABLE TO COMPLETE OUR MISSION BEFORE THEY ARE ABOUT TO ATTACK WITH THE SOLAR SYSTEM...
WE WILL WITHDRAW FROM THIS SECTOR IMMEDI-ATELY!!

I WANT YOU ALL TO KEEP THIS IN MIND:
THIS IS ONLY A MISSION!


THE ENEMY ESCORT FLEET AROUND THE COLONY IS CURRENTLY IN DISARRAY...
...AND HAS DISPERSED DUE TO THE MARINE'S REBELLION.
WE WILL USE THIS SITUATION TO OUR ADVANTAGE AND LAUNCH AN ASSAULT LANDING ON THE COLONY!
THIS MISSION HAS A GOOD CHANCE OF SUCCESS FOR US!

.....
HERE IS WHERE WE WILL SETTLE OUR SCORE WITH THE ZEON REMNANTS FROM AUSTRALIA!
YOU'VE ALL FOUGHT SO WELL TO MAKE IT THIS FAR...

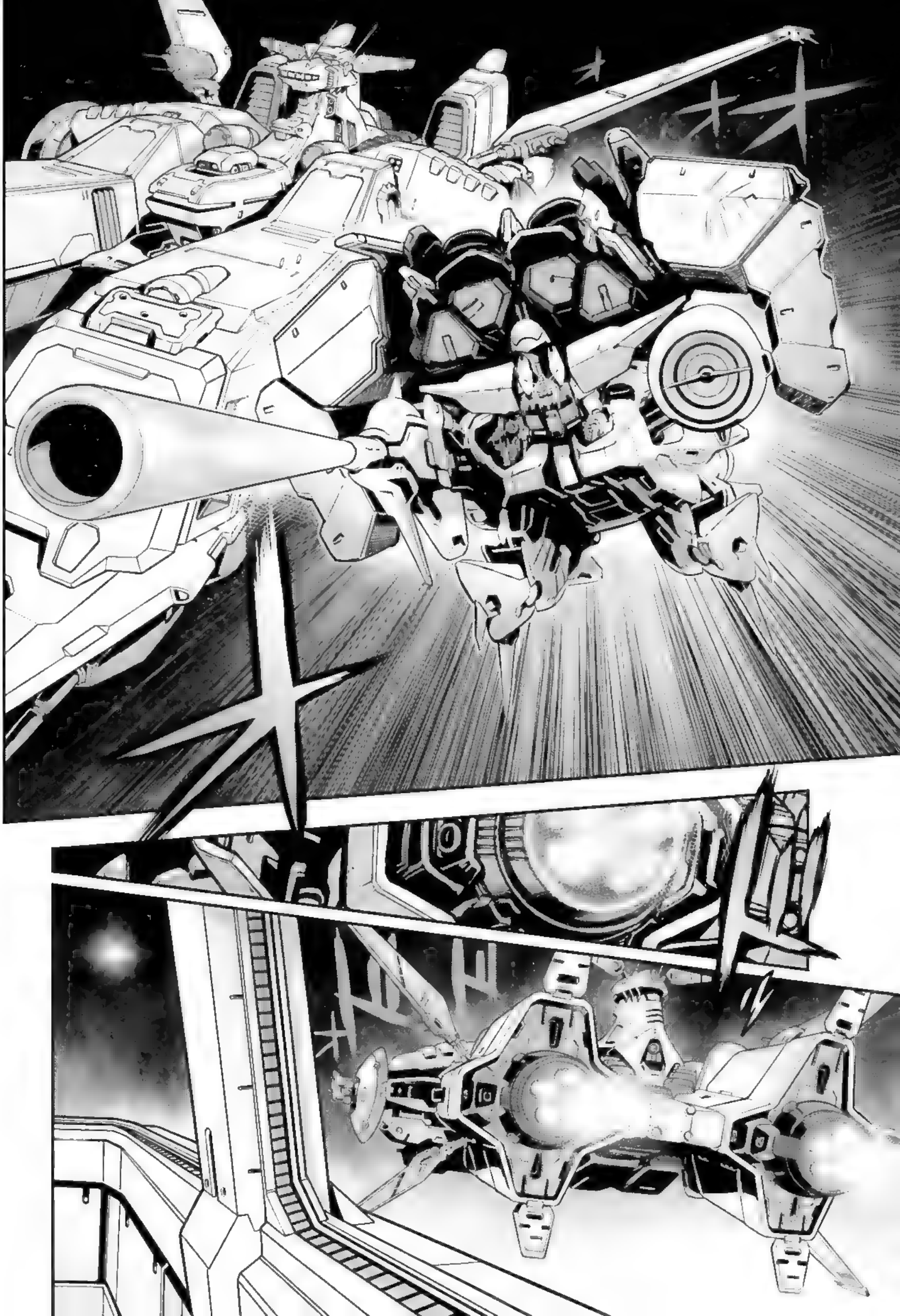
...

SO YOU'RE ABANDONING THE MISSION THERE, MONSHA, OLD BUDDY?
HE'S GOTTA BE KIDDING ME. I HAVE NO DESIRE TO DIE IN VAIN.

OH, C'MON, DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.
DO YOU THINK LIEUTENANT BURNING WOULD REST IN PEACE IF I DID?
...

AS AN ENGINEER, THIS IS THE END OF ANY AFTERCARE I CAN PROVIDE.
I CAN'T GO ON ANY LONGER WITH YOU!
YES, WHICH IS WHY YOU SHOULD GO ALREADY, LUCETTE.
YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT STAYING ON THIS SHIP, NINA?

I HAVE TO SEE TO THE GUNDAM.
UGH, NO YOU IDIOT!
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!
LOOK, IT'S NOT ABOUT THE GUNDAM, AND IT'S NOT ABOUT GATO...
IT'S ABOUT KOU URAKI!
HE'S THE ONE YOU HAVE TO SEE THROUGH!



YEAH...
NINA ENDED UP GOING IN THE END, HUH?
I GET THAT, BUT I'M STILL GOING!
IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU TO DO ANYTHING, PAULA.
I NEED TO BORROW A FAST SHIP... DIRECTOR HACKSELL!

NINA!!
YOU BEST NOT DO ANYTHING RASH...

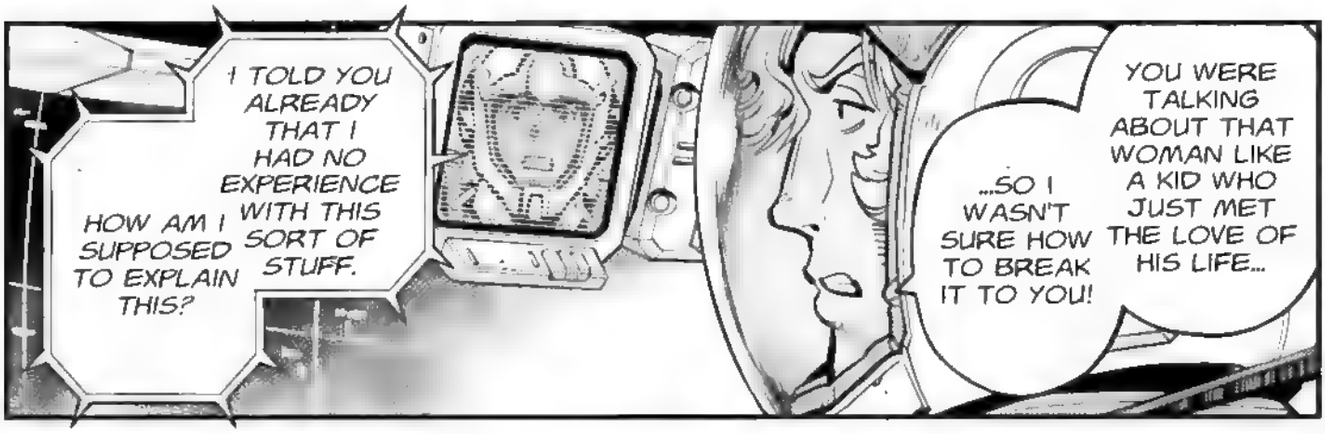
URAKI, ARE YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T WANT TO SEE HER...
I MEAN, SEE NINA BEFORE WE HEADED OUT?

I OVER-HEARD YOU GUYS TALKING, AND... SORT OF...
URAKI, YOU AND HER ARE, UH... YOU'RE DATING, RIGHT?

WHY DO YOU ASK?
...?

IF YOU ARE ASKING WHETHER WE'RE DATING, WELL, TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT REALLY SURE.
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A RELATION-SHIP BEFORE.
BUT, I REALLY LIKE NINA.
AND I RESPECT HER.
I GET THE FEELING THAT SHE LIKES ME TOO...
BUT NOW I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE ABOUT HER.
BUT, YOU WERE ACQUAINTED WITH HER TOO, WEREN'T YOU?
HUH? OH, YEAH.
IT WAS NEARLY TWO YEARS AGO, IN FACT.
NINA WAS COMING AROUND MY JUNK SHOP FOR A WHILE.
SHE WAS INTERESTED IN JUNK PARTS, SO...
OH...
THAT'S RIGHT!

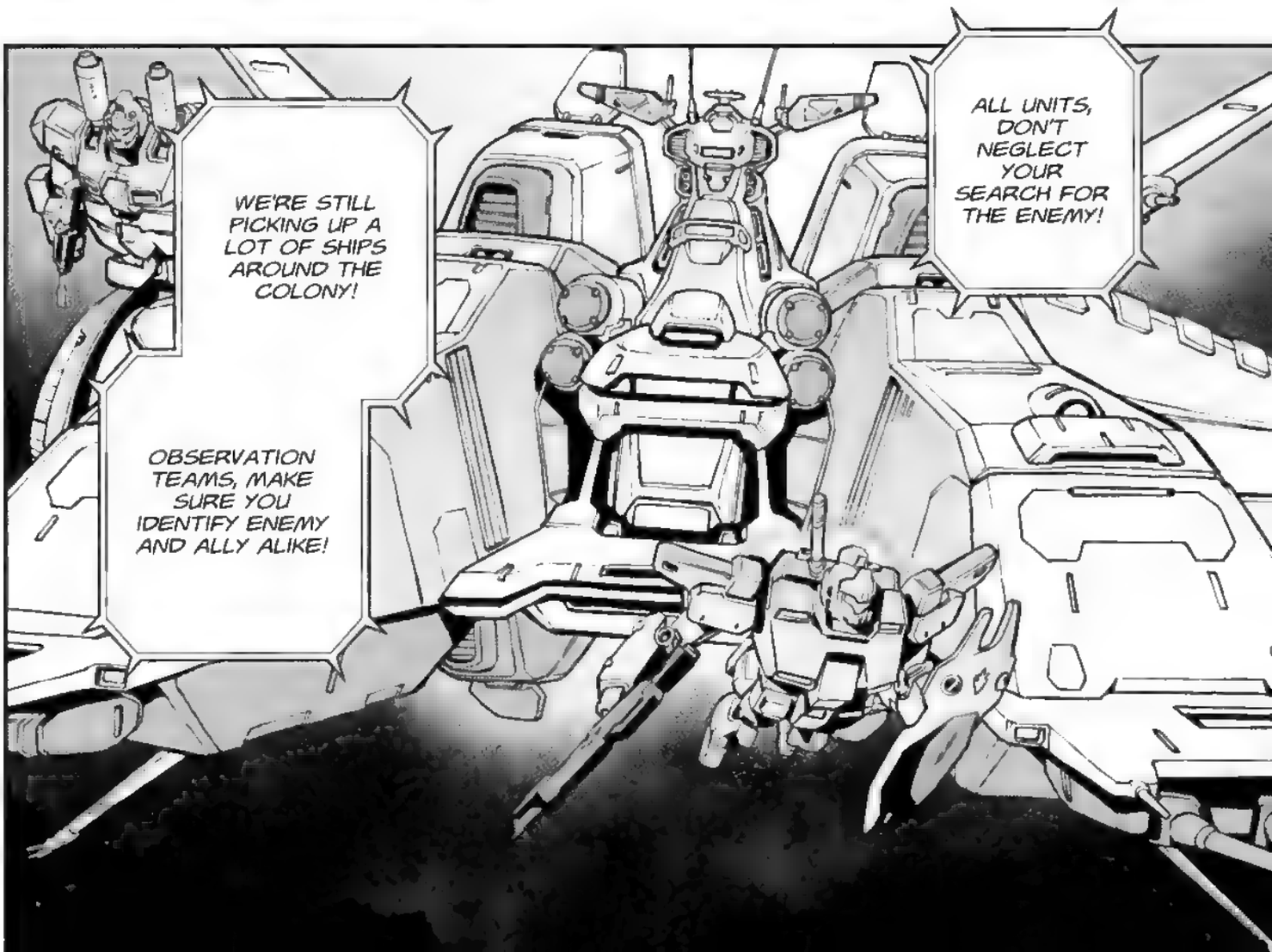
I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED THAT YOU HAD KNOWN ABOUT GATO'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HER...
BA HA HA HA
YOU KNEW...
YOU KNEW NINA WHEN SHE WAS DATING GATO!


HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO EXPLAIN THIS?
I TOLD YOU ALREADY THAT I HAD NO EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SORT OF STUFF.
...SO I WASN'T SURE HOW TO BREAK IT TO YOU!
YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT THAT WOMAN LIKE A KID WHO JUST MET THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE...

WAS YOUR BATTLE WITH GATO BASED ON A PERSONAL GRUDGE?
THEN I'M GOING TO ASK YOU STRAIGHT OUT.

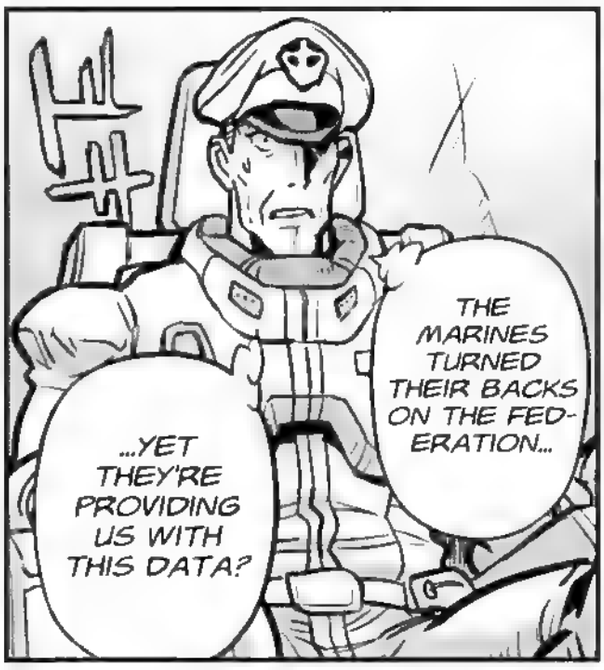
TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE, BUT...
I WANT TO FIGHT GATO AS A PILOT!
AND TO DO IT WITH THIS GUNDAM!
THAT'S ALL I REALLY WANT.
...
DON'T BRING ANY EMOTIONAL BAGGAGE INTO THE FRAY.
THAT'S GOOD.

HUH?
WHAT?
YOU'VE GROWN AS A PILOT IN JUST A FEW MONTHS...
URAKI.
WE'RE ABOUT TO ENTER THE COMBAT ZONE. WHAT'D I TELL YOU ABOUT NOT LETTING YOUR GUARD DOWN?
RIGHT!


ALL UNITS, DON'T NEGLECT YOUR SEARCH FOR THE ENEMY!
WE'RE STILL PICKING UP A LOT OF SHIPS AROUND THE COLONY!
OBSERVATION TEAMS, MAKE SURE YOU IDENTIFY ENEMY AND ALLY ALIKE!

CAPTAIN, DO YOU THINK THE ORBITAL FLEET'S ATTACK WITH THE SOLAR SYSTEM WILL FAIL?
THERE IS ALWAYS A POSSIBIL-ITY.
I THINK IT'S MORE LIKELY THAN NOT THAT OUR OPERATION WILL BE FRUITLESS.
BUT, THE ONLY WAY TO KNOW FOR CERTAIN IS IF WE ACT.
CAPTAIN SYNAPSE, WE'RE RECEIVING A LASER TRANSMISSION... NO, WAIT A MINUTE!
IT'S SOME KIND OF DATA. SHALL I PUT IT ON THE DISPLAY?
DO IT.
WHY, THIS IS...!!

WHERE DID THIS COME FROM? THE ORBITAL FLEET?
IT'S DATA ON THE COLONY'S COURSE CORRECTION CONTROL ROOM AND THE PROPELLANT LEVELS.


...YET THEY'RE PROVIDING US WITH THIS DATA?
THE MARINES TURNED THEIR BACKS ON THE FEDERATION...

YES, SIR.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

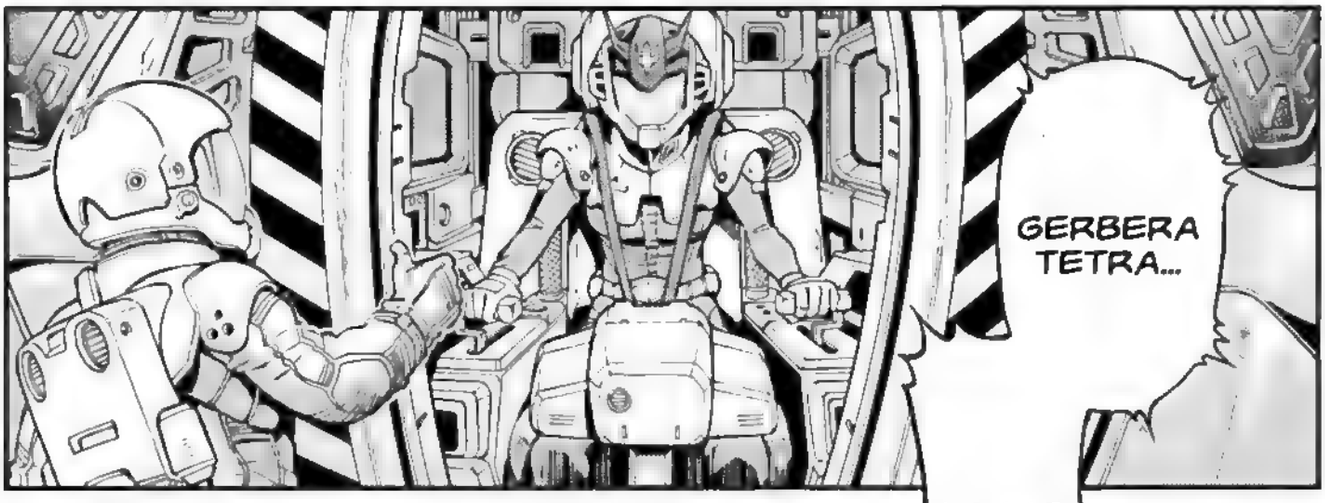
WELL, IT'S... IT'S A LASER TRANSMISSION FROM A ZANZIBAR-CLASS, THE FLAGSHIP OF THE ZEON MARINES.

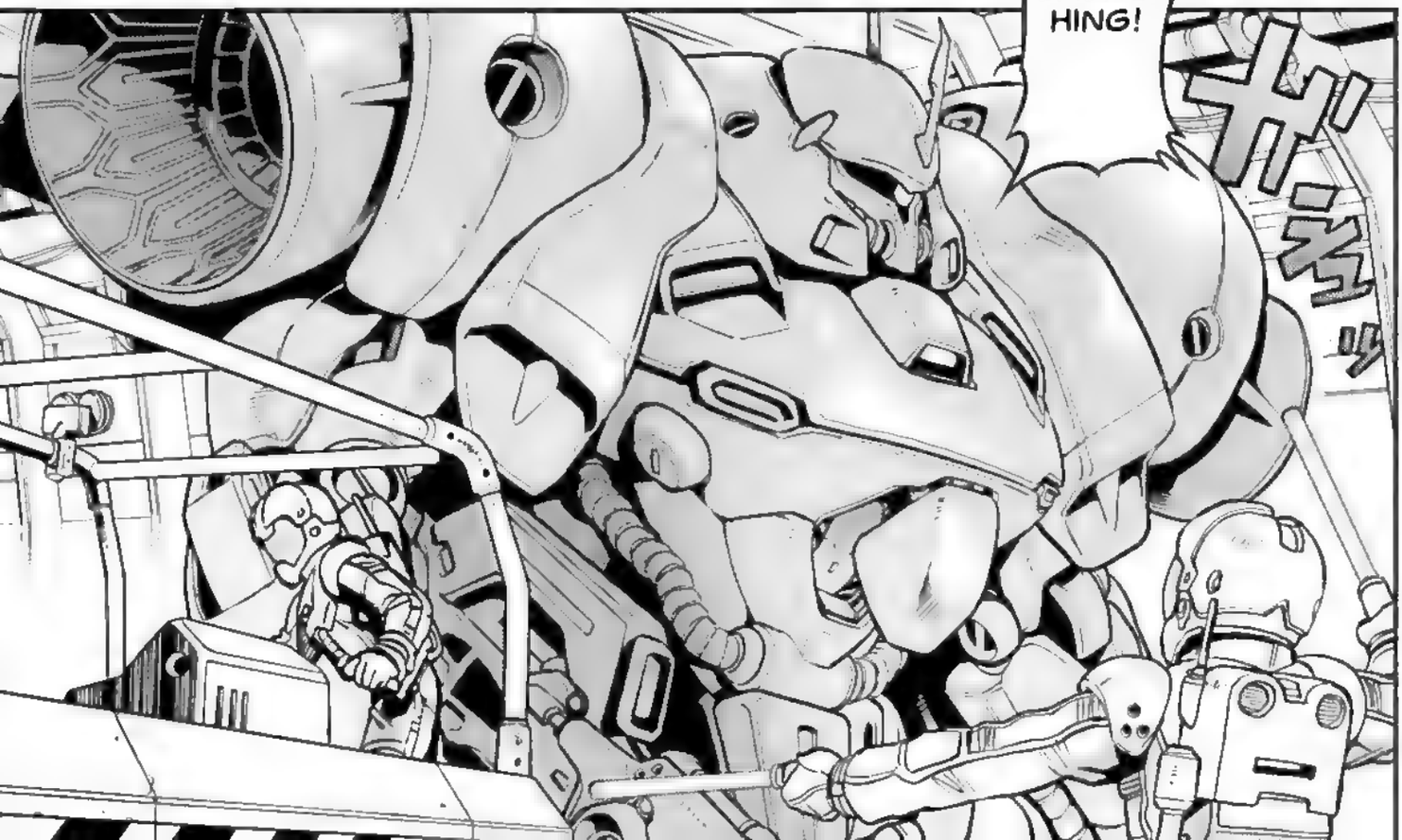
IT WILL INCREASE OUR CHANCES OF COMPLETING OUR MISSION!
STILL, IF THIS INTEL IS CORRECT, WE WON'T BE ACTING ENTIRELY IN THE DARK.

THERE'S ALSO THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THIS IS ALL AN ELABORATE TRAP.
WE SHOULD ASSUME THAT THEY KNEW WHAT WE WERE PLANNING TO DO FROM THE START.
STILL, THE TIMING OF IT ALL...
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER. IT'S JUST ONE OF DELAZ'S TRICKS.
DID YOU REALLY NEED TO GIVE THEM THAT INTEL?
BESIDES, THAT SHIP WE HAVE A NASTY HISTORY WITH...
...IS GOING TO HAVE TO DO ONE MORE THING FOR US.

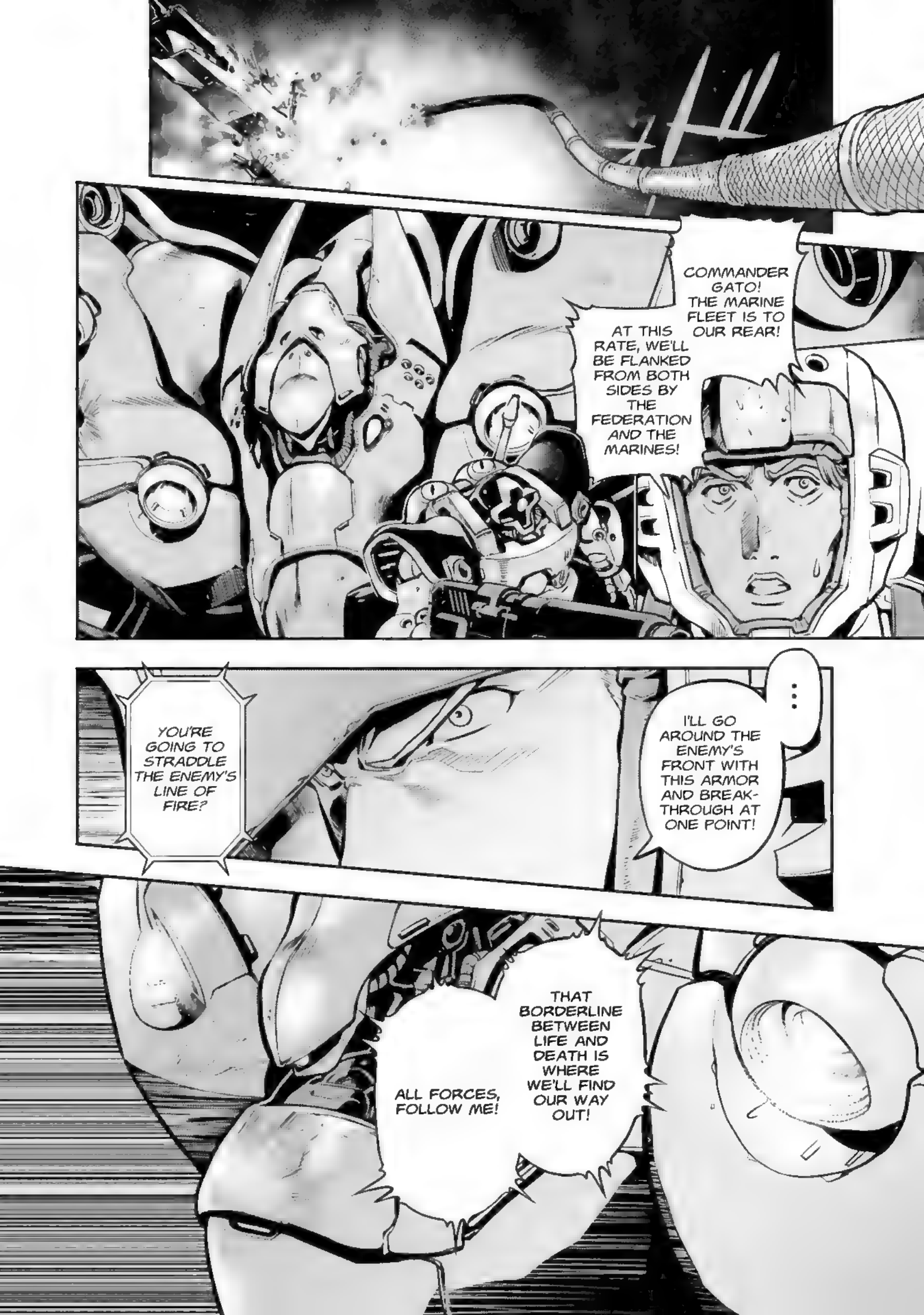
WE NEED THAT GUNDAM'S COMBAT STRENGTH IF WE'RE GOING TO KILL GATO AFTER ALL.
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER CLARA, HEADING OUT!
ゴッ

PHEH


GERBERA TETRA...


LAUNC HING!
ガシャ

I'M GOING TO HAVE MY REVENGE FOR GEIL...
ANAVEL GATO!!

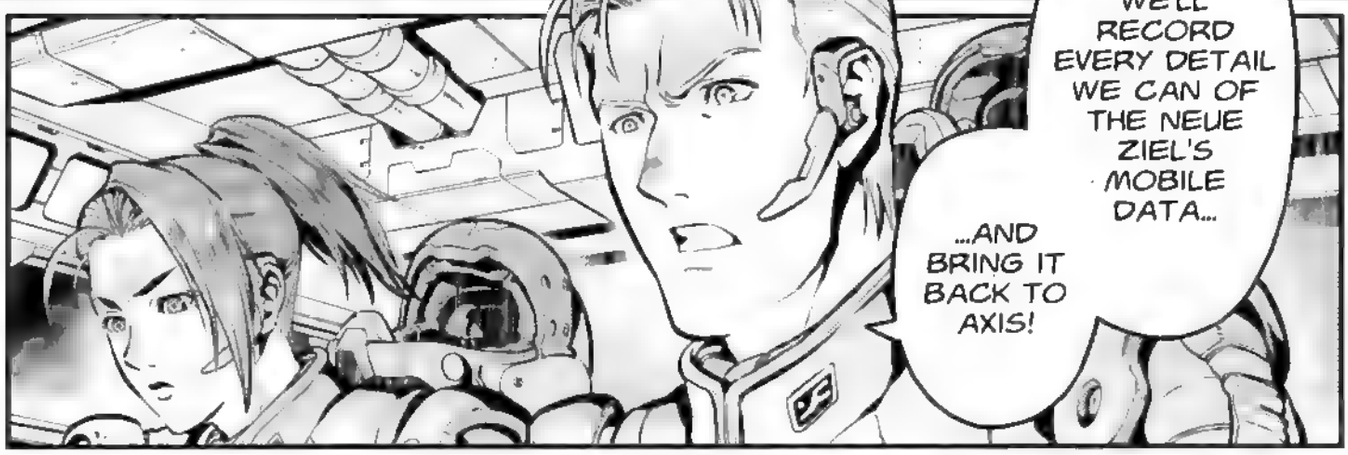

COMMANDER GATO! THE MARINE FLEET IS TO OUR REAR!
AT THIS RATE, WE'LL BE FLANKED FROM BOTH SIDES BY THE FEDERATION AND THE MARINES!
...
I'LL GO AROUND THE ENEMY'S FRONT WITH THIS ARMOR AND BREAK-THROUGH AT ONE POINT!
YOU'RE GOING TO STRADDLE THE ENEMY'S LINE OF FIRE?
THAT BORDERLINE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH IS WHERE WE'LL FIND OUR WAY OUT!
ALL FORCES, FOLLOW ME!

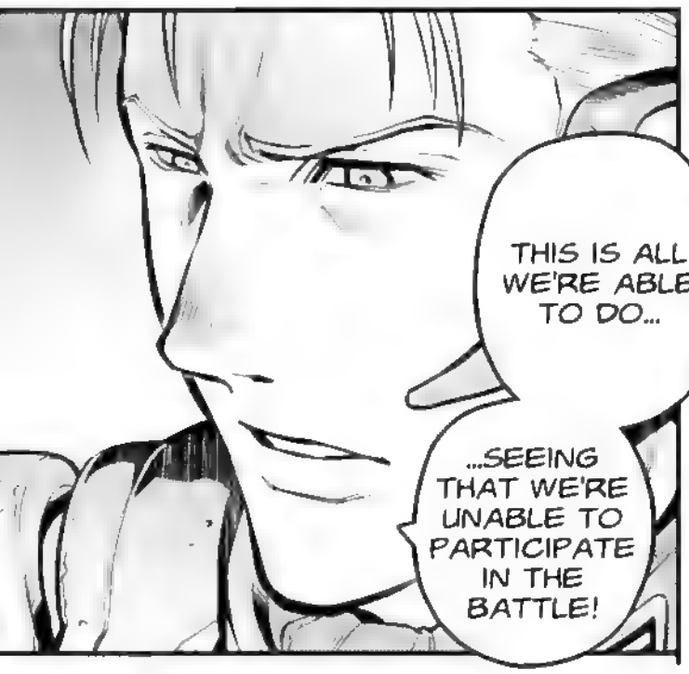
DAMN THAT GATO! IS HE OUT OF HIS MIND?!
HE'S GOING TO CHARGE THROUGH THE SOLAR SYSTEM'S LINE OF FIRE?!
HMPH.
HE'S SHOWN UP EVEN FASTER THAN I THOUGHT.

GUNDAM!!
COMMANDER! I'M PICKING UP A CRAFT APPROACHING US AT HIGH SPEED!
THAT'S THE...

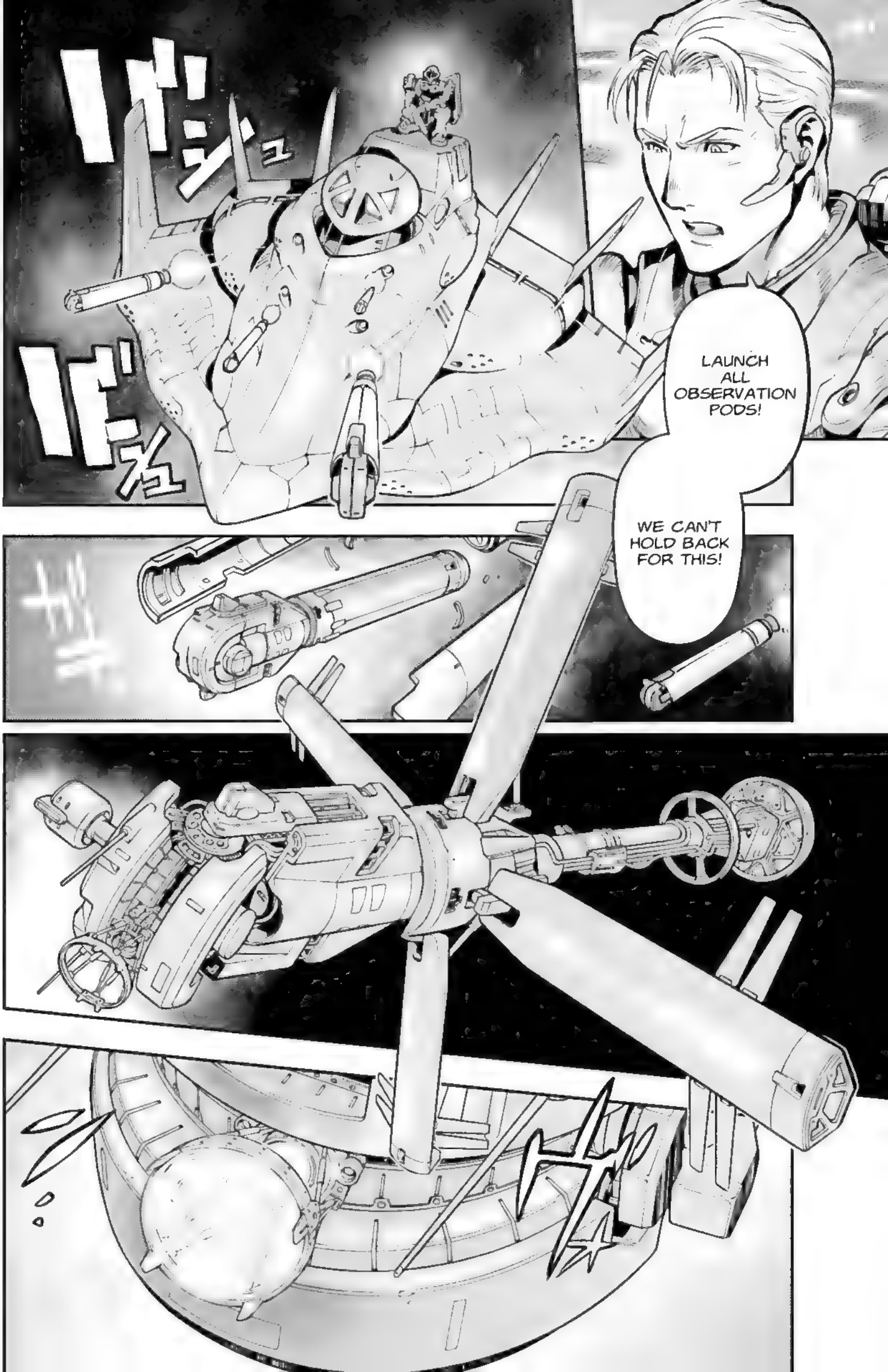
Chapter.68 [Attacking in Waves] END

Chapter.69 [Warriors]
COMMANDER GATO'S INTENDING TO DESTROY THE SOLAR SYSTEM HEAD ON!

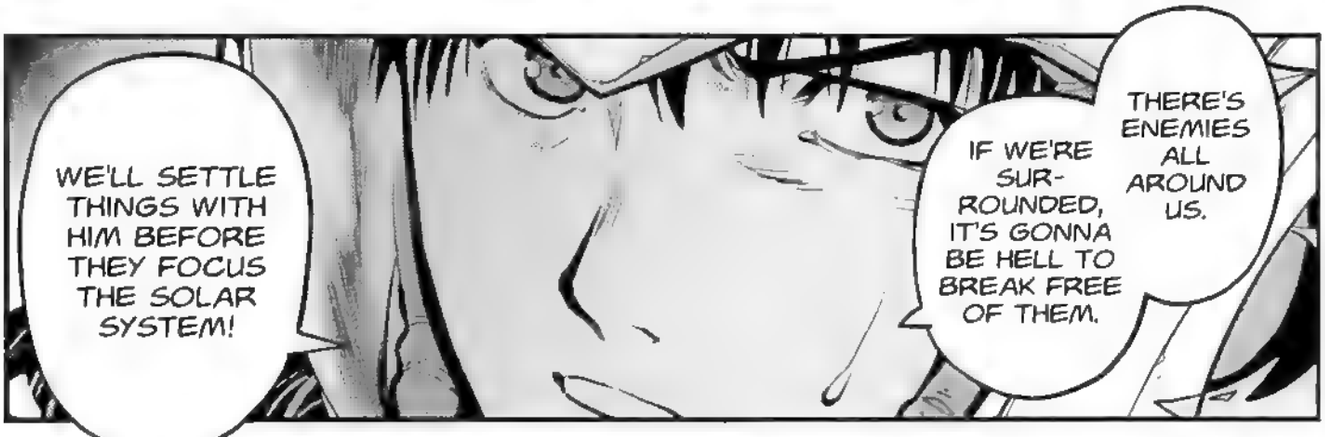

WE'LL RECORD EVERY DETAIL WE CAN OF THE NEUE ZIEL'S MOBILE DATA...
...AND BRING IT BACK TO AXIS!


THIS IS ALL WE'RE ABLE TO DO...
...SEEING THAT WE'RE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BATTLE!

CHANCES ARE, THIS WILL LIKELY BE...
...THEIR FINAL BATTLE.

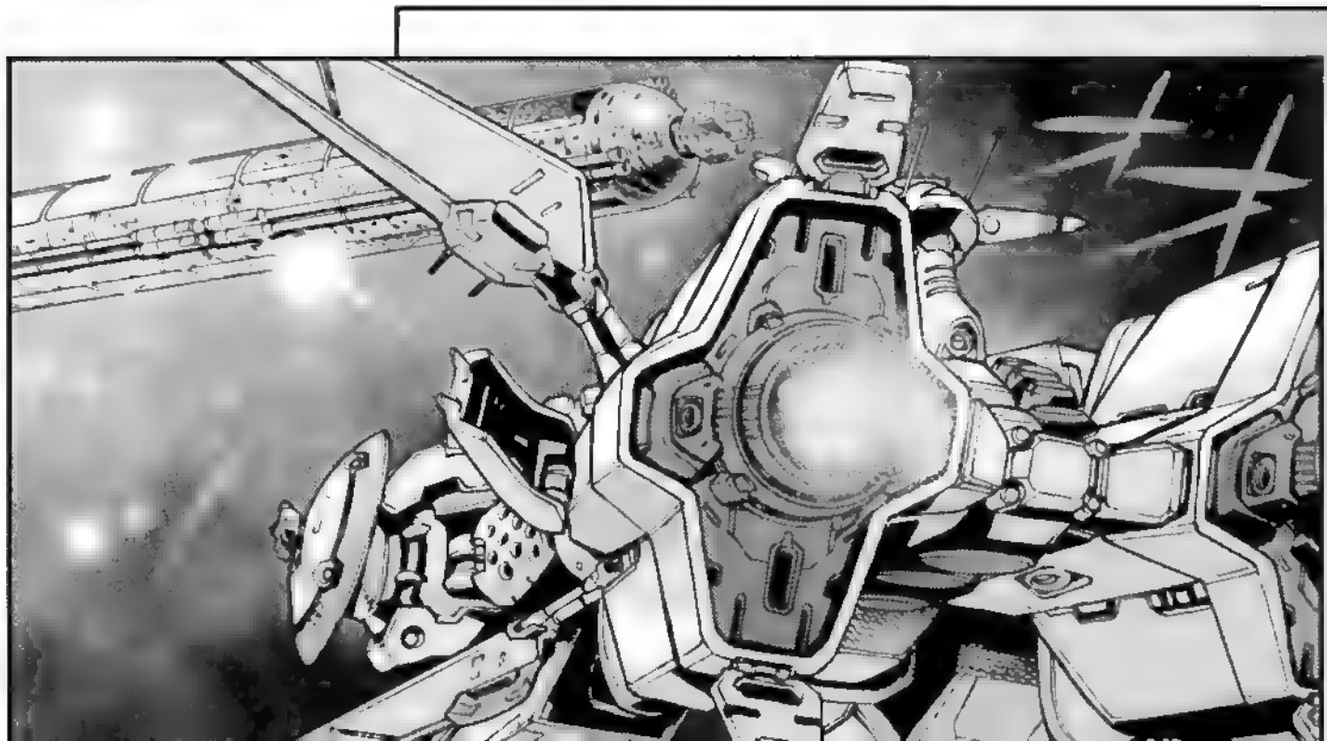

LAUNCH ALL OBSERVATION PODS!
WE CAN'T HOLD BACK FOR THIS!

GATO'S MOBILE ARMOR CONFIRMED!
DON'T FORGET THAT WE'RE IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM'S LINE OF FIRE!
SURFACE TEMPERATURE OF THE SUIT IS ALREADY RISING.

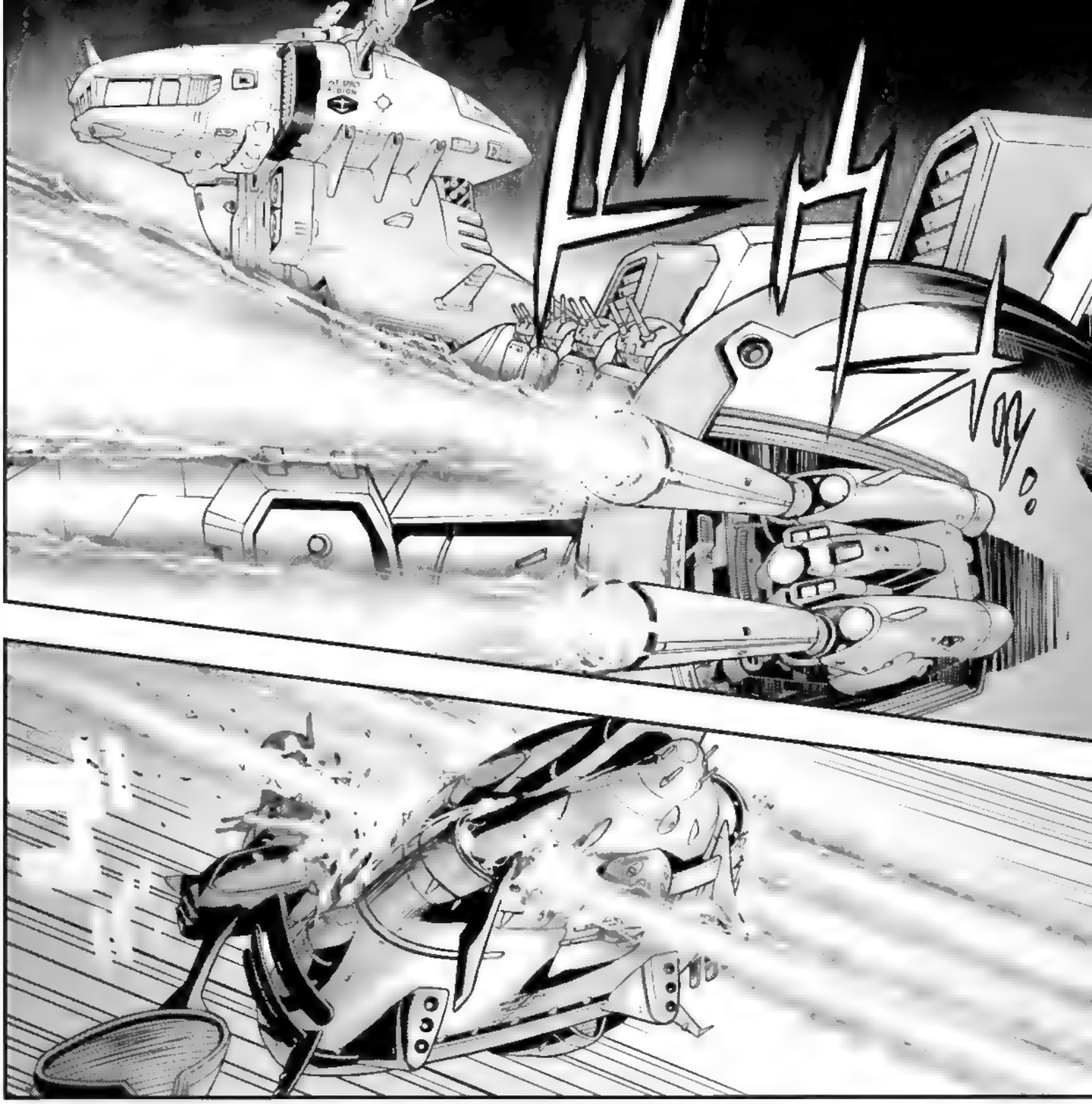

THERE'S ENEMIES ALL AROUND US.
IF WE'RE SURROUNDED, IT'S GONNA BE HELL TO BREAK FREE OF THEM.
WE'LL SETTLE THINGS WITH HIM BEFORE THEY FOCUS THE SOLAR SYSTEM!

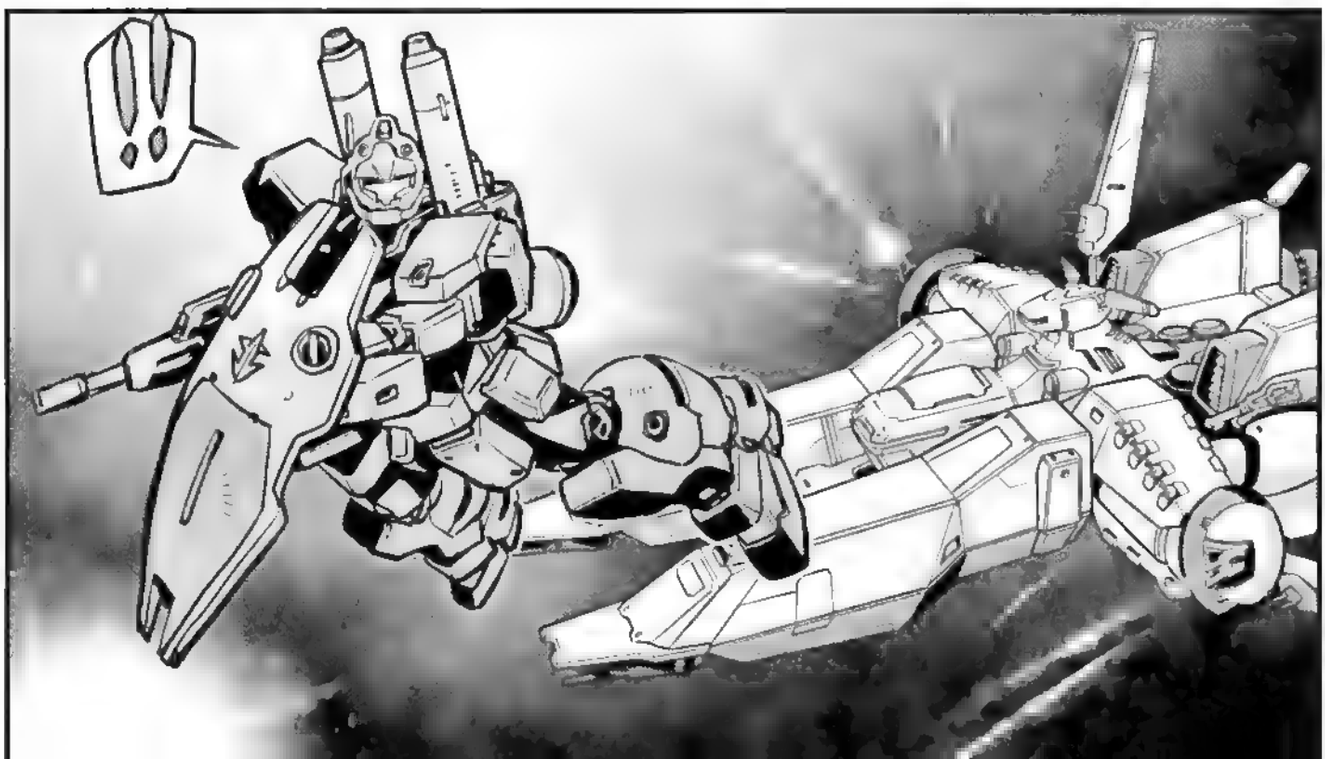
HUH?
...

WHY IS HE TURNING HIS BACK...
WHY IS HE...
WAIT!
GATO...



ID CODE SAYS IT'S...
ENEMY...
...OR ALLY?
ONE MUSAI-CLASS IN FRONT!
AN ENEMY!!
CHRIST, THIS BAT-TLEFIELD IS A FREAKIN' MESS!
SHUT YER TRAP AND DO YOUR JOB, MONSHA!

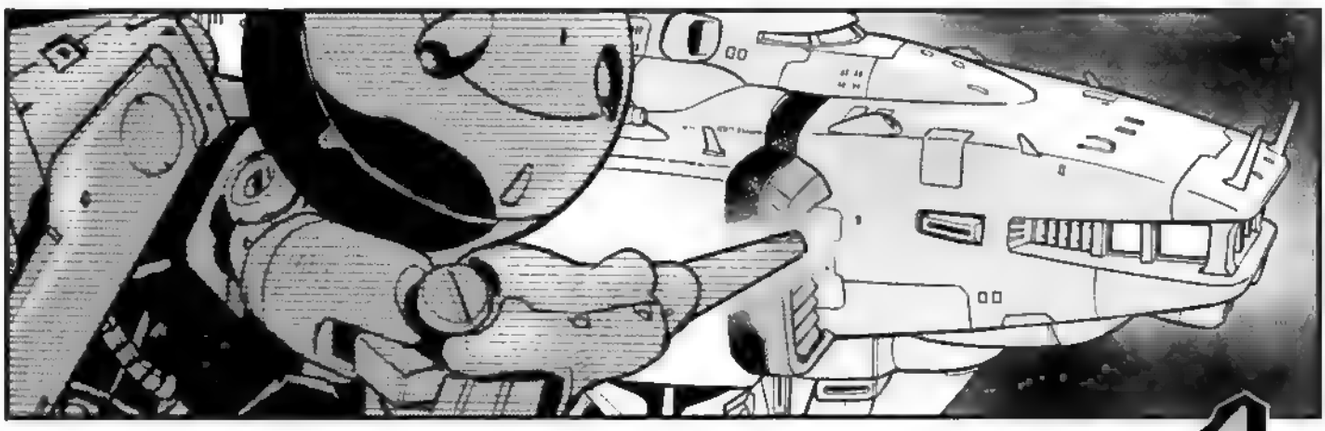


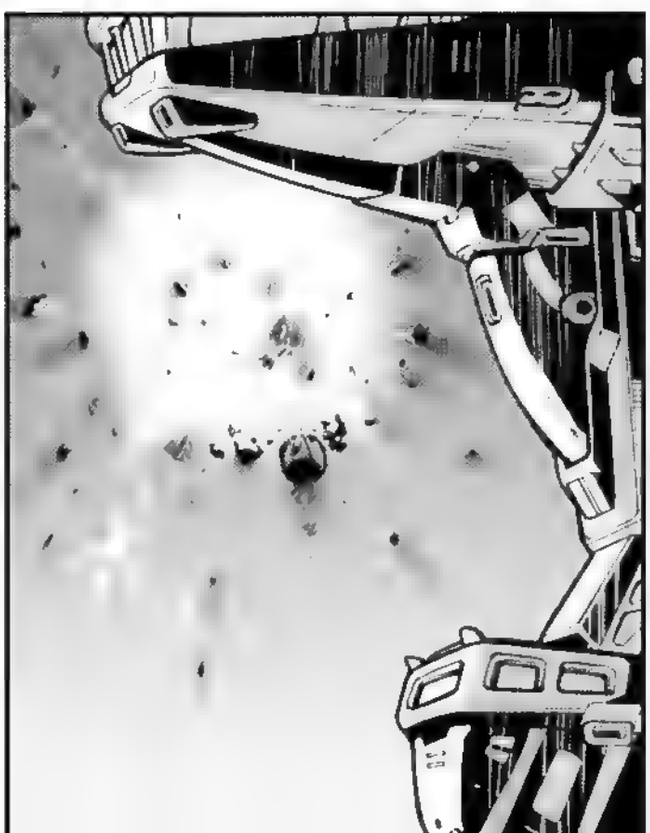


NINE O'CLOCK! BATTLESHIP WRECKAGE IS STILL ACTIVE!
TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE ID CODES.
DON'T PANIC, KEITH!
HUH?
OH, IT'S AN ALLIED SHIP.
SO THEN THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE TOO?

HUH?
THEY'RE NOT BROADCAST-ING ANY ID CODE...
...
IT'S THE ENEMY!!
HOW'S THAT POSSIBLE?!

OH, SHIT! THEY'VE BROKE THROUGH!
TCH!

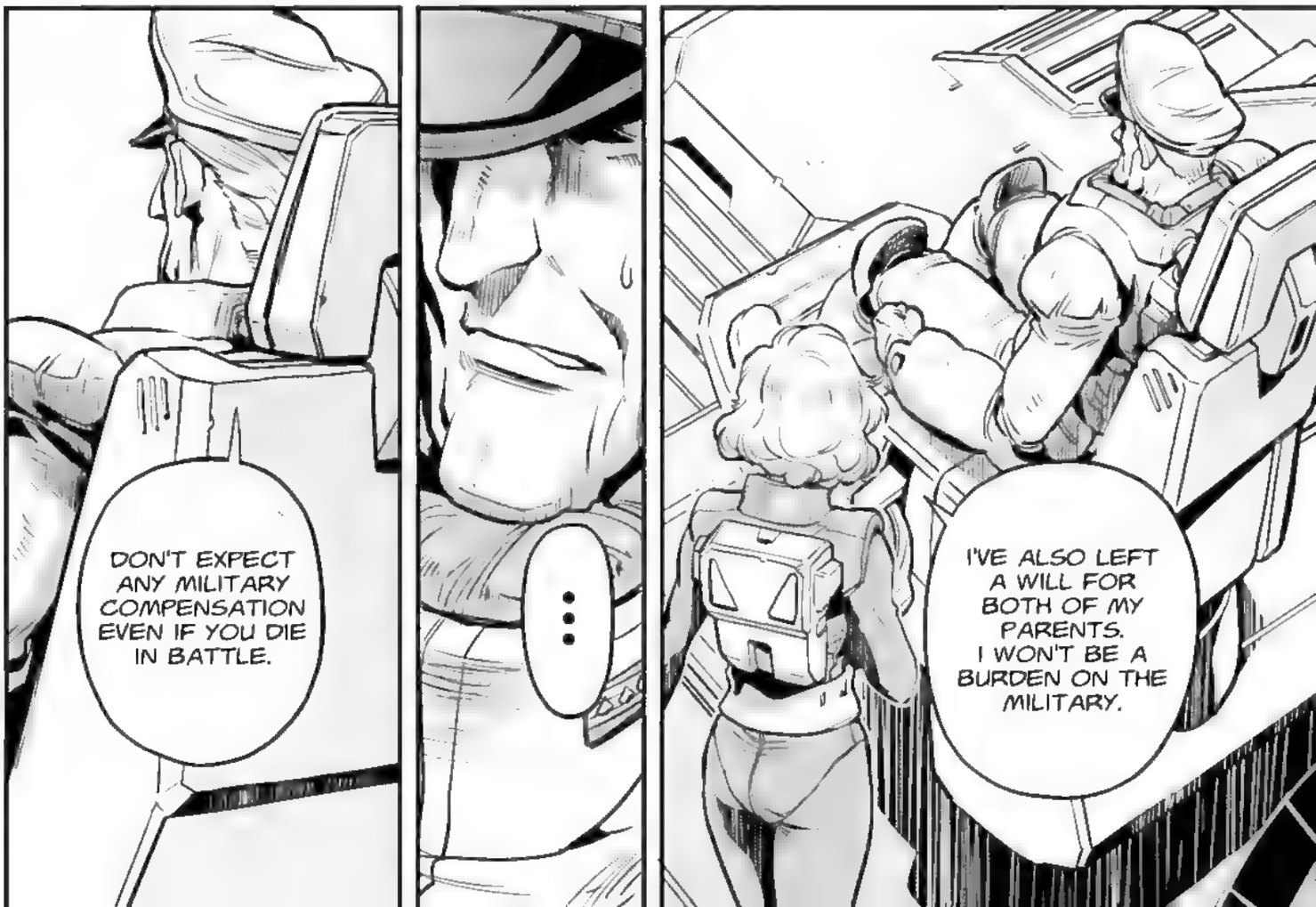




GIVE ME A DAMAGE REPORT!
LEVEL 1 DAMAGE TO STARBOARD MAIN NOZZLE COMPARTMENT.
IT WON'T HINDER NAVIGATION.
PHEW...
THAT WAS CLOSE.
NICE ONE, KEITH.
KEEP A CLOSER EYE ON ENEMY ACTIVITY!
...
CAPTAIN SYNAPSE.
YOU...
...DIDN'T GET OFF THE SHIP?
EYTHAR SINAPUS

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ALICE MILLER TOLD ME IN THIS VERY SPOT...
PLEASE, LET ME STAY HERE ON THE BRIDGE, SIR.
...

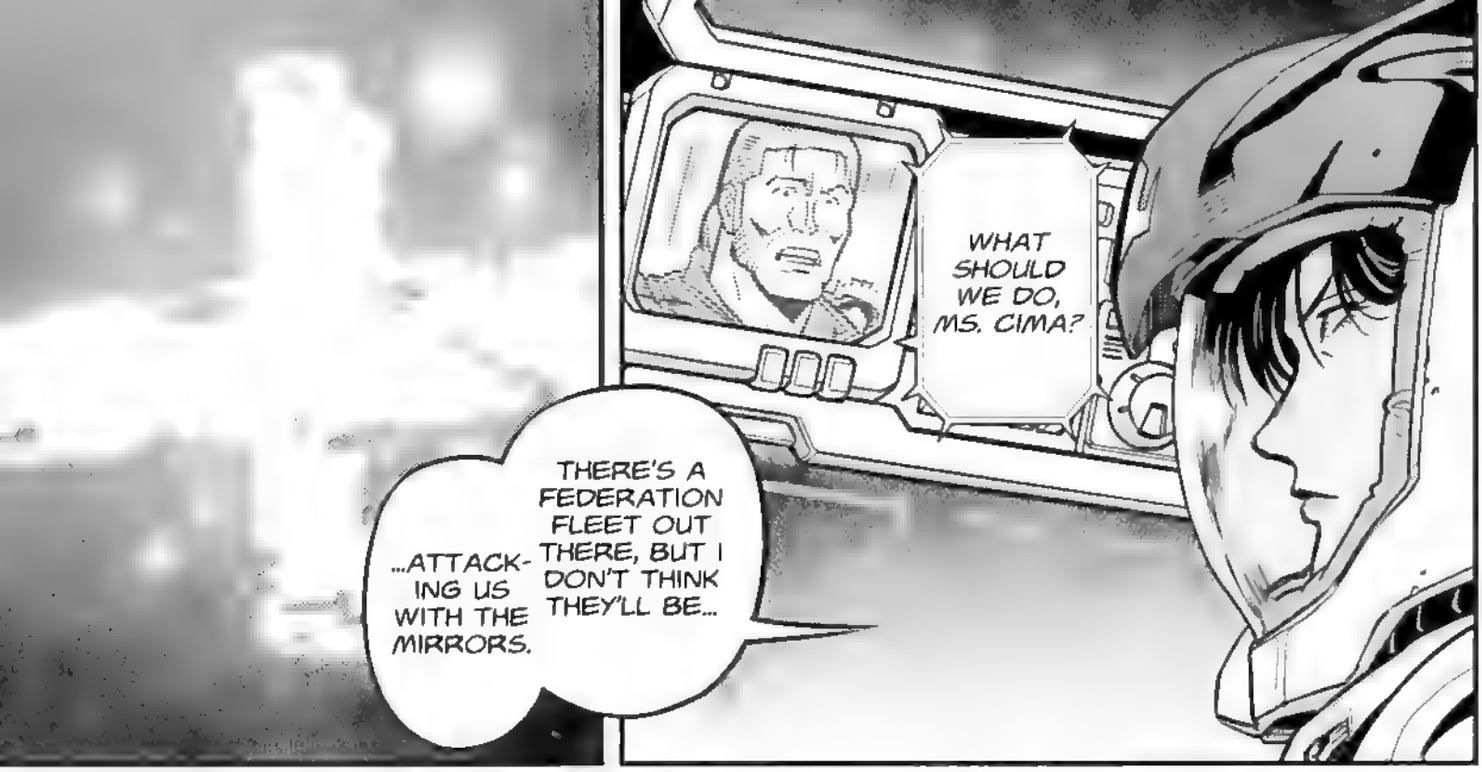
THAT IS AN ENGINEER'S DUTY."
SEE JUST WHAT THE WEAPON YOU CREATED IS FOR!
"STAND UP AND LOOK!


DON'T EXPECT ANY MILITARY COMPENSATION EVEN IF YOU DIE IN BATTLE.
...
I'VE ALSO LEFT A WILL FOR BOTH OF MY PARENTS. I WON'T BE A BURDEN ON THE MILITARY.

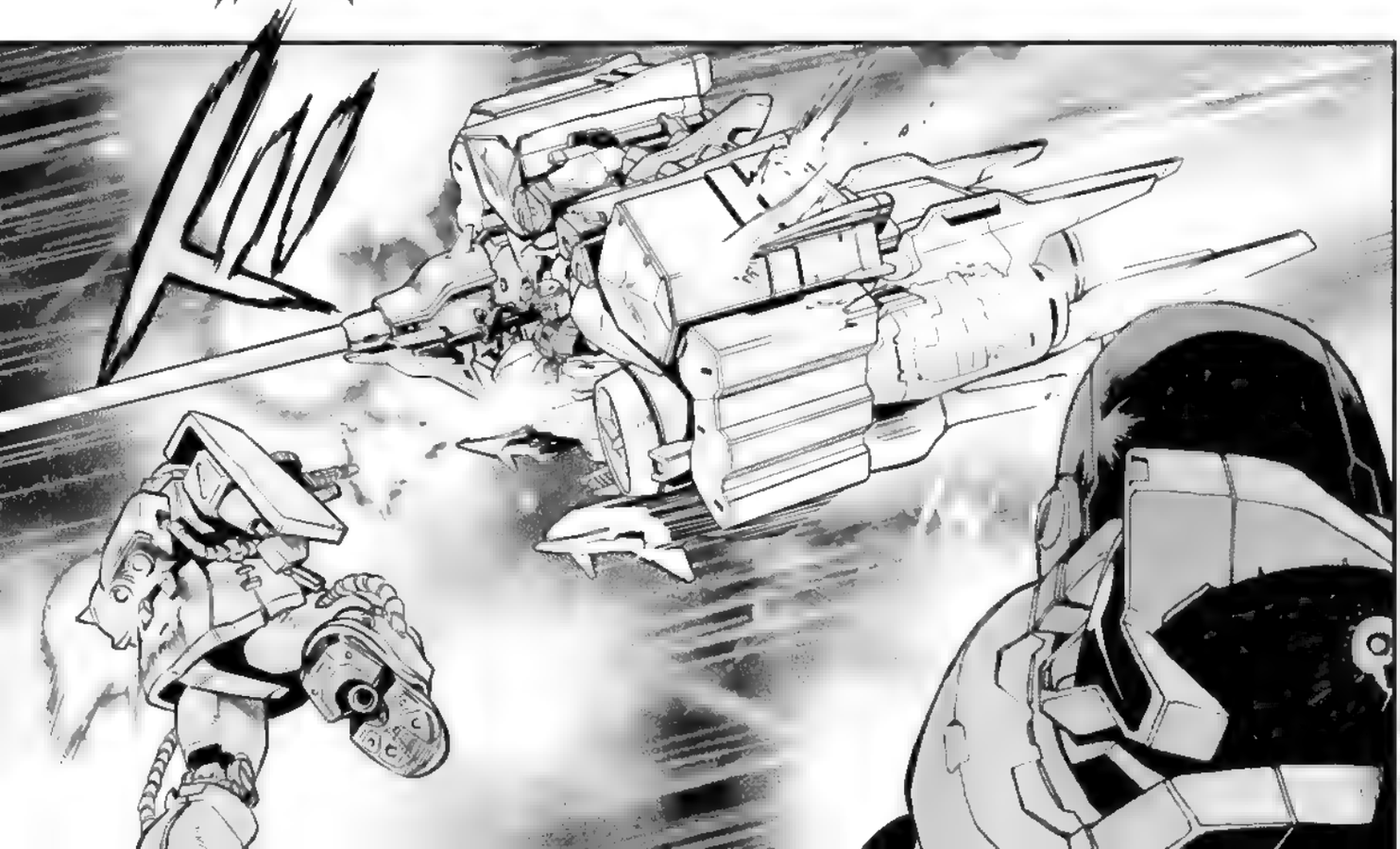
ENEMY HEAVY MOBILE ARMOR APPROACHING FROM IN FRONT OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM II. RANGE: 5000!
CAPTAIN BASK, I SUGGEST WE CHANGE THE ANGLE OF THE MIRRORS...
...AND ATTACK THE MOBILE ARMOR TO PREVENT ANY FURTHER DAMAGE.
ABSO-LUTELY NOT!
THE BIGGEST MISTAKE THAT WE COULD MAKE IN THIS OPERATION IS FAILING TO DESTROY THE COLONY.
THAT IS THE ONLY POINT.
I'VE GONE TO CONSIDERABLE LENGTHS ALTERING OUR PATH TO A SWEEPING VICTORY.
IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH I WAS AFRAID OF GATO'S MOBILE ARMOR.
WE'LL DESTROY THE COLONY WITHOUT FAIL. THERE IS NO NEED FOR US TO ALTER THE CURRENT MIRROR ANGLES.

YOU WANT ME TO SPREAD THE FLEET OUT ALONG THE SOLAR SYSTEM II'S FIRING AXIS?!
MOVE THE 2ND FLEET DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR.
TELL CIMA'S FLEET TO ATTACK THE MOBILE ARMOR FROM BEHIND.
WE'LL CRUSH HIM WITH A PINCER MOVE BETWEEN THE TWO FLEETS!
OUR TARGET IS SOLELY THE COLONY! THE MOBILE ARMOR WILL BE DESTROYED BY THE FLEET FORCES!

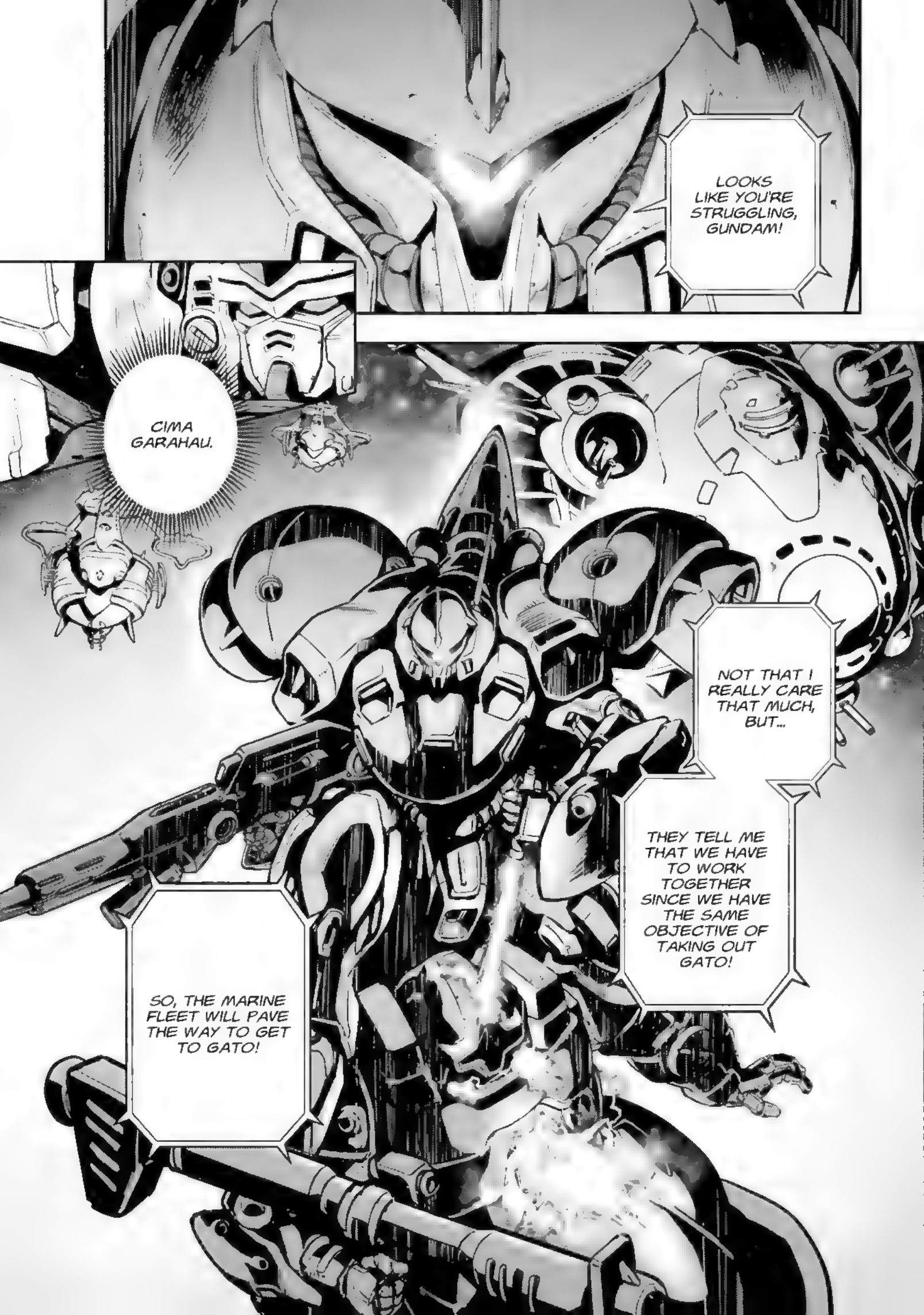
DAMN THAT BASK...
HE EXPECTS US TO FIGHT IN THE LINE OF FIRE?!
HUH?


WHAT SHOULD WE DO, MS. CIMA?
THERE'S A FEDERATION FLEET OUT THERE, BUT I DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE...
...ATTACKING US WITH THE MIRRORS.

FOR NOW WE'LL JUST FOLLOW ALONG WITH BASK'S ORDERS.
THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GOING TO SETTLE THIS IS TO DEAL WITH GATO SOONER RATHER THAN LATER!

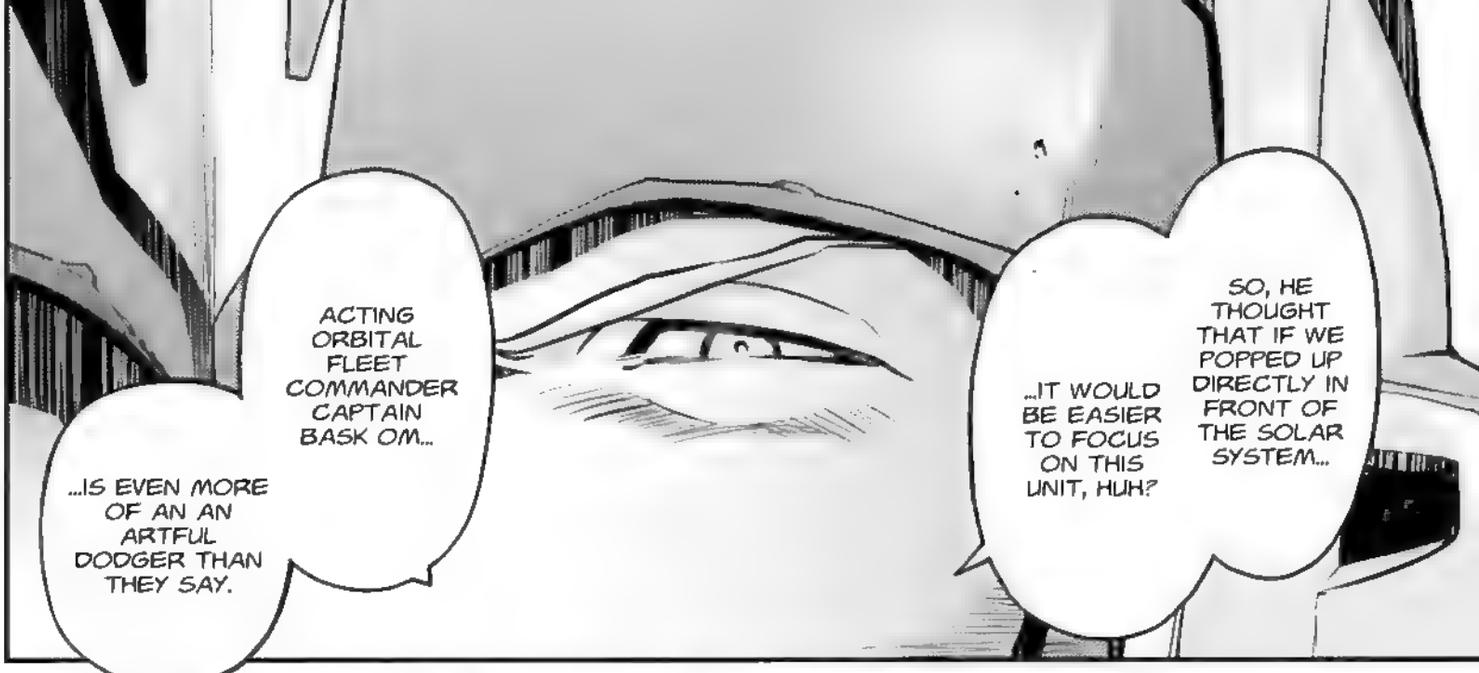


I WANTED TO SAVE THE CONTAINER'S FIREPOWER FOR THE FIGHT WITH GATO...
BUT, WITH ENEMIES LIKE THIS...
WE'RE BOUND TO GET TAKEN OUT!

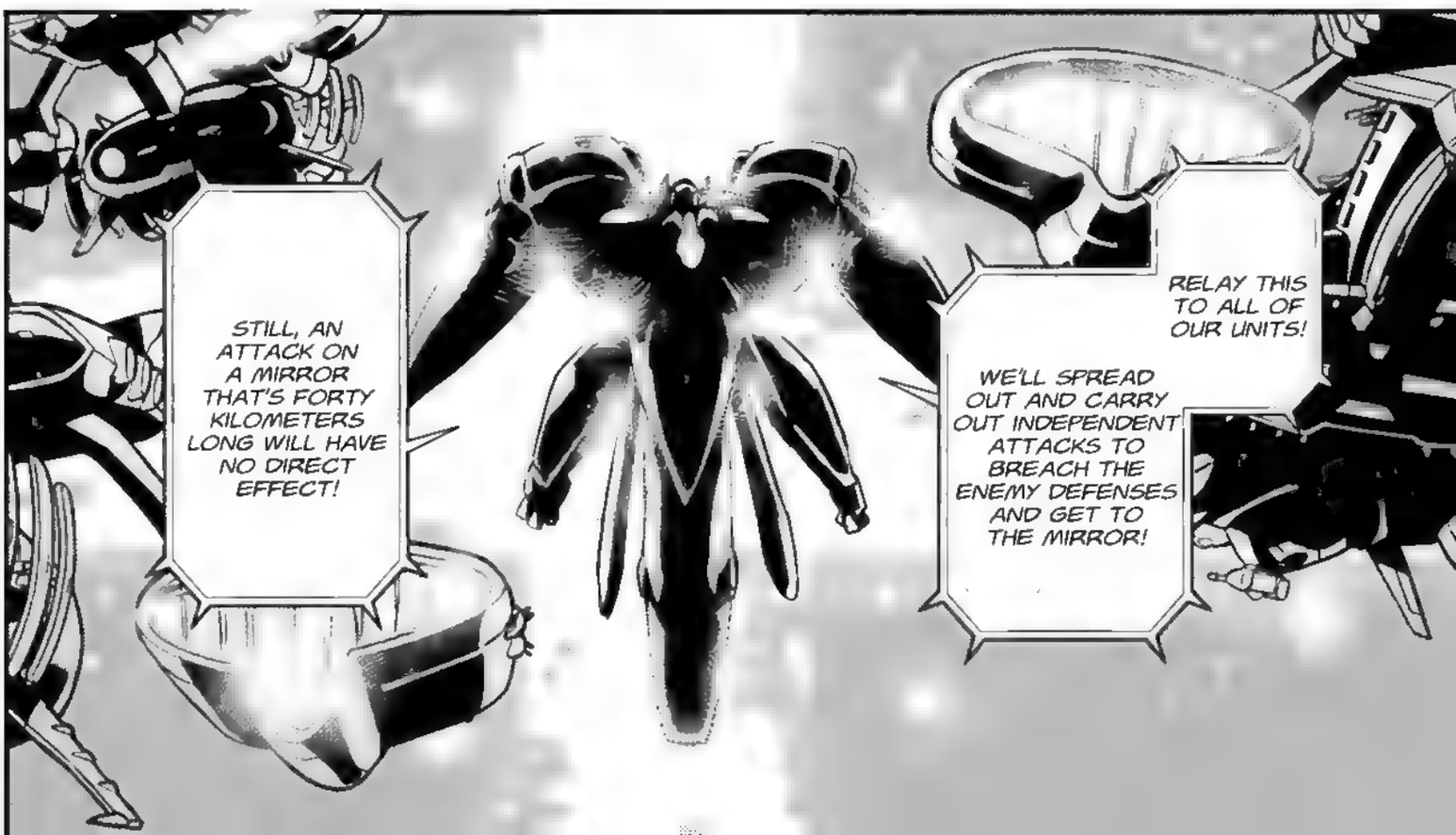

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STRUGGLING, GUNDAM!
CIMA GARAHAU.
NOT THAT I REALLY CARE THAT MUCH, BUT...
THEY TELL ME THAT WE HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER SINCE WE HAVE THE SAME OBJECTIVE OF TAKING OUT GATO!
SO, THE MARINE FLEET WILL PAVE THE WAY TO GET TO GATO!

DON'T YOU DARE IGNORE ME ON AN OPEN CHANNEL, GUNDAM!
DON'T TRUST CIMA. JUST IGNORE HER.
KELLY LAYZNER?!
!?
YOUR FACE... LOOKS FAMILIAR. HAVE WE MET BEFORE?
SO YOU'RE BLAMING IT ON THE SITUATION, HUH?
YOU TALK ABOUT US COOPERATING OUT OF NOWHERE IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS... SO OF COURSE I CAN'T RESPOND TO YOU.
...
NO, THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT. YOU LOOK LIKE YOU WERE BETRAYED BY GATO.
WELL THIS IS CERTAINLY ONE HELL OF A SURPRISE. YOU TURNED TRAITOR TO GATO AND ARE PILOTING A GUNDAM.

MS. CIMA! WE DON'T NEED HELP FROM THESE IMPS!
BITE YOUR TONGUE, CHIEF PETTY OFFICER!
I'D LOVE TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, BUT WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT.
ARE WE WORKING TOGETHER OR NOT? WHAT'LL IT BE?
I DON'T WANT YOU THINK I'M FORCING YOU OR ANYTHING, BUT... YOU ARE UNDER ORDERS FROM YOUR SUPERIOR OFFICERS...
TO "COOPERATE WITH THE CIMA FLEET" AM I RIGHT?
...


SO, HE THOUGHT THAT IF WE POPPED UP DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM...
...IT WOULD BE EASIER TO FOCUS ON THIS UNIT, HUH?
ACTING ORBITAL FLEET COMMANDER CAPTAIN BASK OM...
...IS EVEN MORE OF AN AN ARTFUL DODGER THAN THEY SAY.

KARIUS, I'LL BE HOLDING UP HERE...
...AND MAKE THEM SHIFT THE MIRROR'S COORDINATES ONTO THE NEUE ZIEL AND NOT THE COLONY.
YOU'RE GOING TO ACT AS BAIT, COMMANDER?
YES! IT'S THE ONLY PATH OUT OF THIS FOR US!

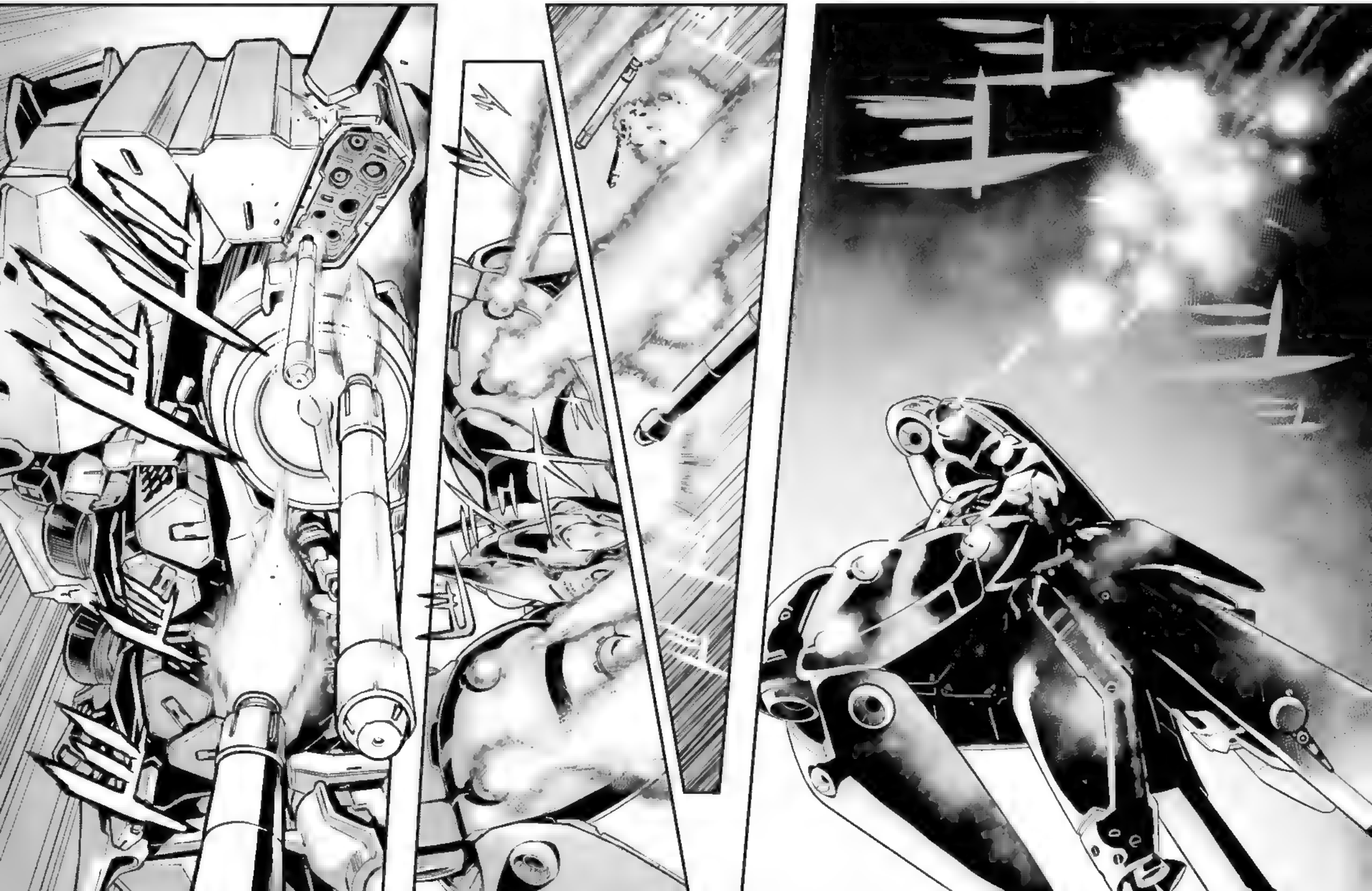

RELAY THIS TO ALL OF OUR UNITS!
WE'LL SPREAD OUT AND CARRY OUT INDEPENDENT ATTACKS TO BREACH THE ENEMY DEFENSES AND GET TO THE MIRROR!
STILL, AN ATTACK ON A MIRROR THAT'S FORTY KILOMETERS LONG WILL HAVE NO DIRECT EFFECT!

THE TARGET OF OUR ATTACKS IS THE CONTROL SHIP THAT CONTROLS THEIR FOCUS ANGLE!
IF WE MANAGE TO TAKE OUT THEIR CONTROL SHIP, THEN THE SOLAR SYSTEM WILL CEASE FUNCTIONING!
NOW GO! FOR THE COMPLETION OF OPERATION STARDUST...
COM-MANDER...

EVEN IF THEY ARE TO BURN THIS BODY OF MINE...
...OUR IDEALS WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED.
THAT WILL BE THE FINAL OUTCOME OF OPERATION STARDUST.

COM-
MANDER
GATO!
WE'RE
UNDER
HEAVY
ATTACK
BY THE
MARINES
TO OUR
REAR...
ONE UNIT
HAS
BROKEN
THROUGH!
IT'S THAT
WHITE
MOBILE
ARMOR!
THIS
MUST
TRULY BE
FATE!

WE'VE GOT YOU CORNERED NOW, GATO!!



!!
DO IT NOW, GUNDAM!

I CAME TO SETTLE MY SCORE WITH GATO!! YOU...
THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY IS MY ALLY, HUH?

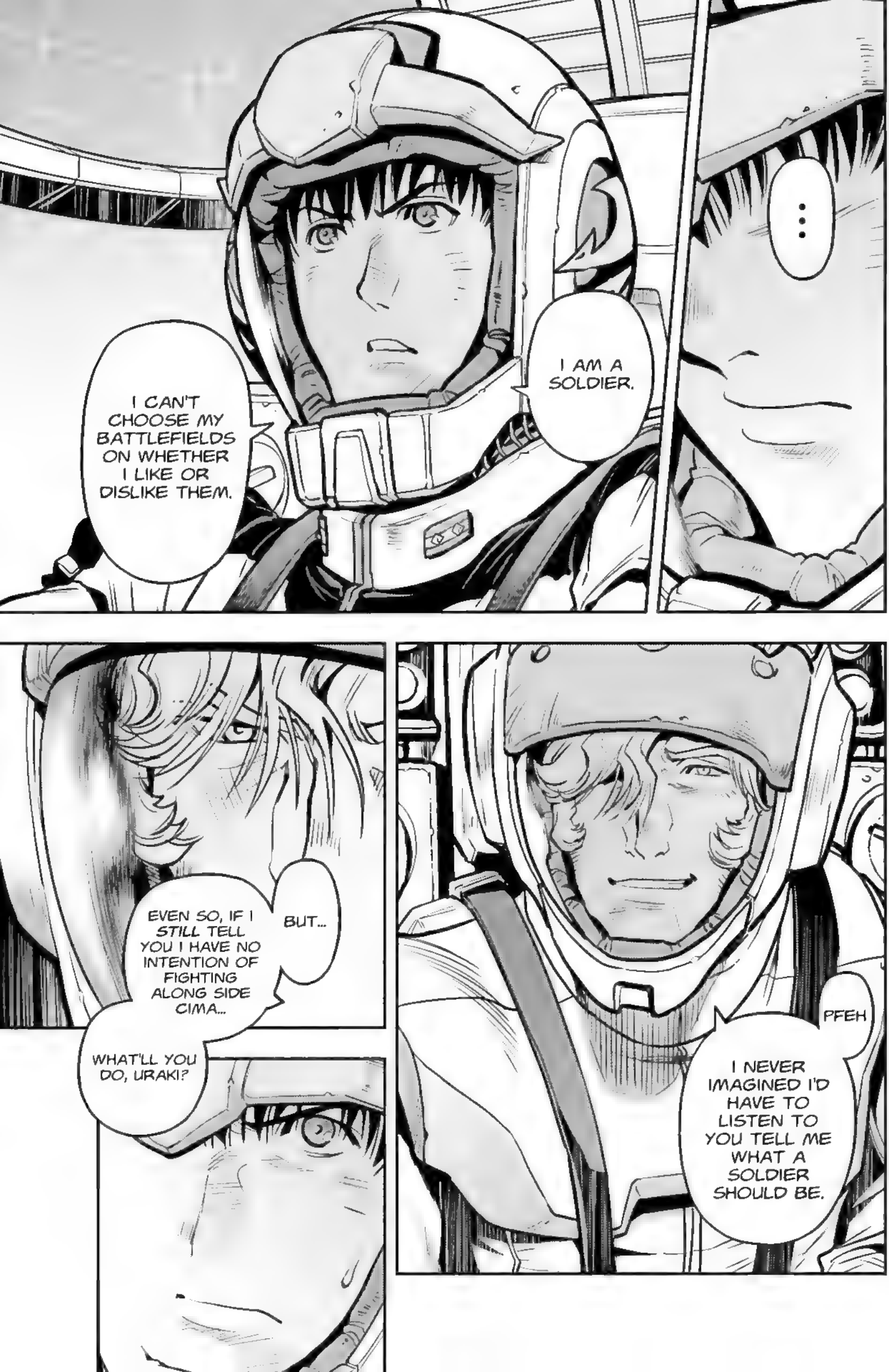
NOW THINGS ARE GETTING INTERESTING!
IN ANCIENT TIMES, A COLISEUM WAS A STAGE WHERE THE STRONGEST SLAVES WERE BROUGHT TOGETHER...
...TO KILL EACH OTHER IN A LIFE-OR-DEATH STRUGGLE FOR THE AMUSEMENT OF THE AUDIENCE.
THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT THEY DID!

Chapter.69 [Warriors] END

IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR LETTING US GET THIS CLOSE, ANAVEL GATO!
CIMA...

LOOK LIKE THAT REALLY PUSHED YOUR BUTTONS!
CAUSE THIS AND CAUSE THAT!
...TAKE OUR CAUSE AWAY FROM US!
I WON'T LET A SNAKE IN THE GRASS LIKE YOU...

KELLY!
WHY DON'T WE GET CLOSER AND ATTACK GATO?
I...
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF FIGHTING ALONGSIDE CIMA.
NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO BE SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, URAKI?
YOU DON'T WANT TO LEAVE A GRUDGE AGAINST GATO, DO YOU?


I CAN'T CHOOSE MY BATTLEFIELDS ON WHETHER I LIKE OR DISLIKE THEM.
I AM A SOLDIER.
...
EVEN SO, IF I STILL TELL YOU I HAVE NO INTENTION OF FIGHTING ALONG SIDE CIMA...
BUT...
WHAT'LL YOU DO, URAKI?
PFEH
I NEVER IMAGINED I'D HAVE TO LISTEN TO YOU TELL ME WHAT A SOLDIER SHOULD BE.

DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
I CAN COMPLETELY CUT OFF YOUR PILOTING SYSTEM FROM MY END IF NEED BE.
FIGHT GATO ALONE, THEN.
U.N.F. SPACY
ALBION
IT APPEARS THAT LIEUTENANT URAKI'S GUNDAM HAS MADE CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY'S HEAVY MOBILE ARMOR!
A BATTLE OF FATE, HUH?
...
EYPHAR SINAPUS

COME TO THINK OF IT, THE FATE OF EVERYTHING WE'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN...
...HAS COME DOWN TO A GUNDAM.
FATE IS TOO BURDENSOME A WORD... THIS IS LIKE A CURSE.
OPS TEAM WORK IS COMPLETE!
LIGHT IT UP!
MAYBE THAT IS WHAT A GUNDAM IS...

IF THE DELAZ FLEET DESTROYS THE SOLAR SYSTEM...
...THEN THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO PUT A STOP TO THE COLONY DROP!
WE'LL TAKE CONTROL OF THE COLONY'S COURSE CORRECTION CONTROL SYSTEM...
...AND ALTER THE EARTH-FALL COURSE OURSELVES!

I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET YOU SHAKE US OFF!
WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE IN CLOSE COMBAT!

WHAT'S THE MATTER MR. NIGHTMARE OF SOLOMON? GETTING ANXIOUS?
WELL THEN, HOW ABOUT THIS?!

ENEMY HEAVY MOBILE ARMOR IS MAKING A CHARGE FOR US!
ALL SHIPS, ALL CANNONS!
SIMULTANEOUS BARRAGE!

TCH!
ALWAYS GETTING IN THE WAY!
WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON ANYWAY?!

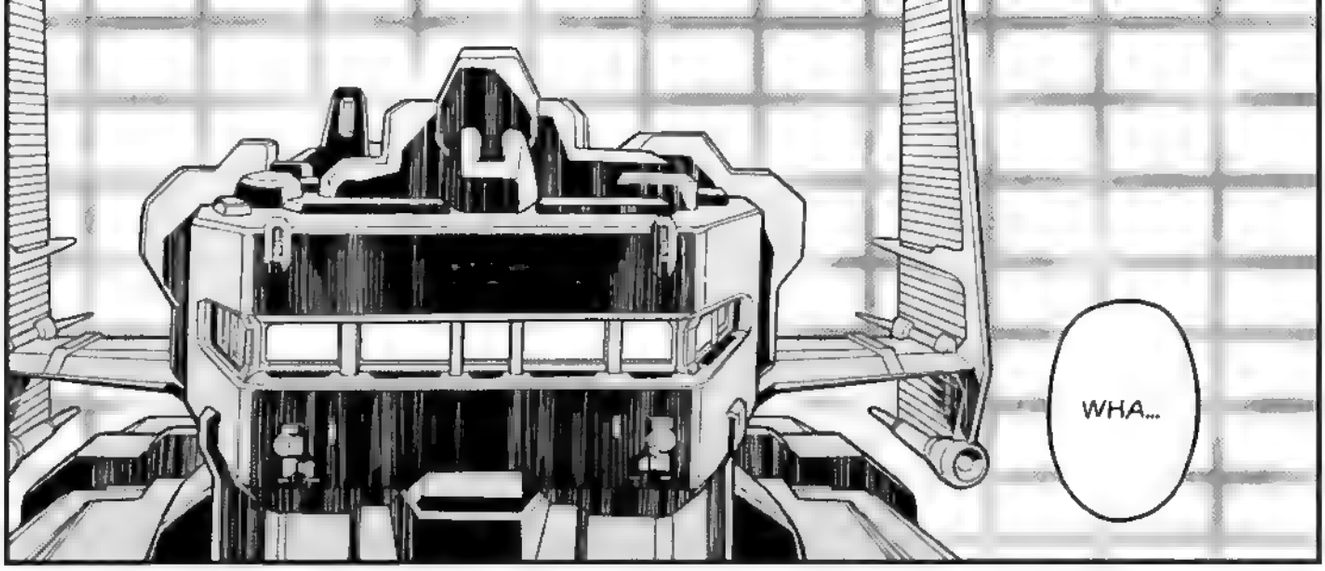
CHIEF CLARA, YOU'RE TO PULL BACK TO THE LILI MARLEEN.
I-I CAN STILL FIGHT!
I CAN TELL WHAT'S GOING ON JUST BY LOOKING AT YOU. YOU'LL ONLY SLOW US DOWN.
KOSCEL! RETRIEVE CLARA'S UNIT!
AS YOU WISH, MA'AM! WE'VE LOCKED ON.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, MS. CIMA?

I'VE GOT GATO ON THE ROPES, SO I'M NOT PULLING BACK JUST YET.
BESIDES, THERE'S STILL THAT DAMN GUNDAM.
IT REALLY DOESN'T WANT TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE ME, DOES IT?
WHAT THE HELL IS THE GUNDAM DOING? WHY ISN'T IT FIGHTING?!
USE THE LASER COMMS TO FORCE A CHANNEL WITH THE GUNDAM!

GUN-DAM!
DO YOU COPY, GUNDAM PILOT?!
...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING OUT THERE?! HURRY UP AND ATTACK GATO'S MOBILE ARMOR!
OR DON'T TELL ME, YOU'VE LOST YOUR NERVE, AM I RIGHT?
STATE YOUR NAME AND AFFILIA-TION!
LIEU-TENANT KOU URAKI WITH THE ALBION CORPS, SIR.
OF COURSE, ALL THE PILOTS UNDER KOWEN'S COMMAND ARE FECKLESS NITWITS...
...THAT AMOUNT TO NOTHING MORE THAN AN INCOM-PETENT UNIT THAT ONLY CAUSES HEADACHES!
SO WHY DON'T YOU FIGHT?!

WHAT'S THIS? YOU DARE GIVE ME A LOOK OF DEFIANCE?!
SHOULD YOU CONTINUE TO IGNORE DIRECT ORDERS, I'LL HAVE YOU COURT-MARTIALED.
...
FOR STARTERS...
...THIS ENTIRE DEBACLE WAS CAUSED BY YOU PEOPLE WHO LOST THE MOBILE SUIT!
URAKI...
HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY WIN IF YOU'RE A PART OF THE ROTTEN FEDERATION?
THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT AN ORGANIZATION I WOULD ENTRUST MY LIFE WITH AS A SOLDIER.
KELLY? WHAT'RE YOU...?
NO, DON'T TELL ME...
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME?!
I DON'T CARE IF YOU HAVE TO CHARGE THE ENEMY. FULFILL YOUR DUTIES!

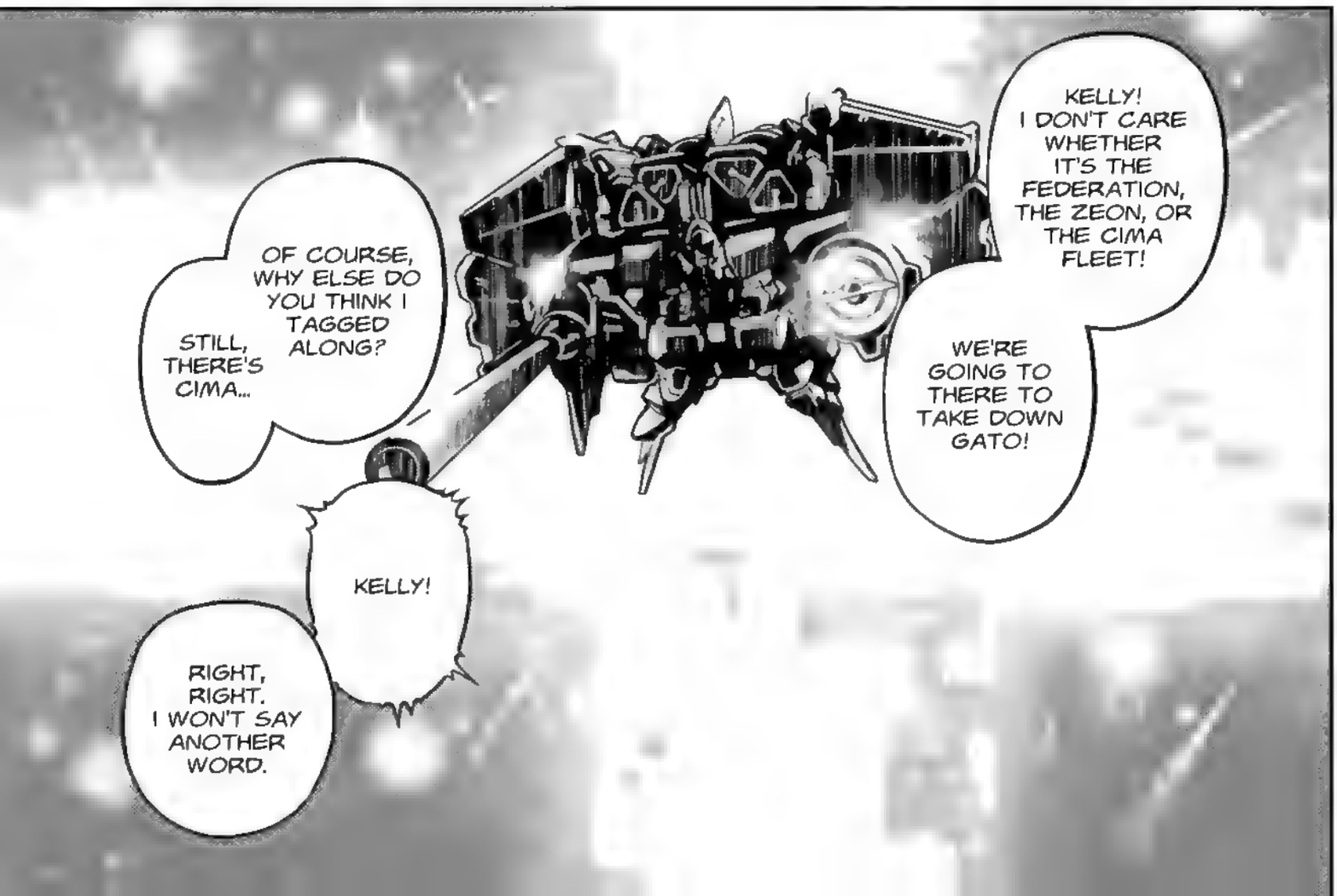
HERE'S MY ANSWER.
WELL, WHAT'LL IT BE?


WHA...

DID THEY FIRE ON US...
...JUST NOW?
IT APPEARS SO, SIR.
BUT, WE'RE OUTSIDE THEIR FIRING RANGE, SO THERE'S NO DAMAGE TO THE SHIP.

YOU'D DARE POINT YOUR GUNS AND FIRE AT ME, BASK?!
YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE...
I'M NOT GOING TO FORGET THAT, GUNDAM!!

SORRY, URAKI.
I'VE PUT YOU IN A BAD POSITION NOW.
YOU'RE FINE. I FELT THE SAME WAY YOU DID.
I REALLY DON'T CARE WHAT'LL HAPPEN LATER...
...JUST SO LONG AS I CAN SETTLE THINGS WITH GATO.

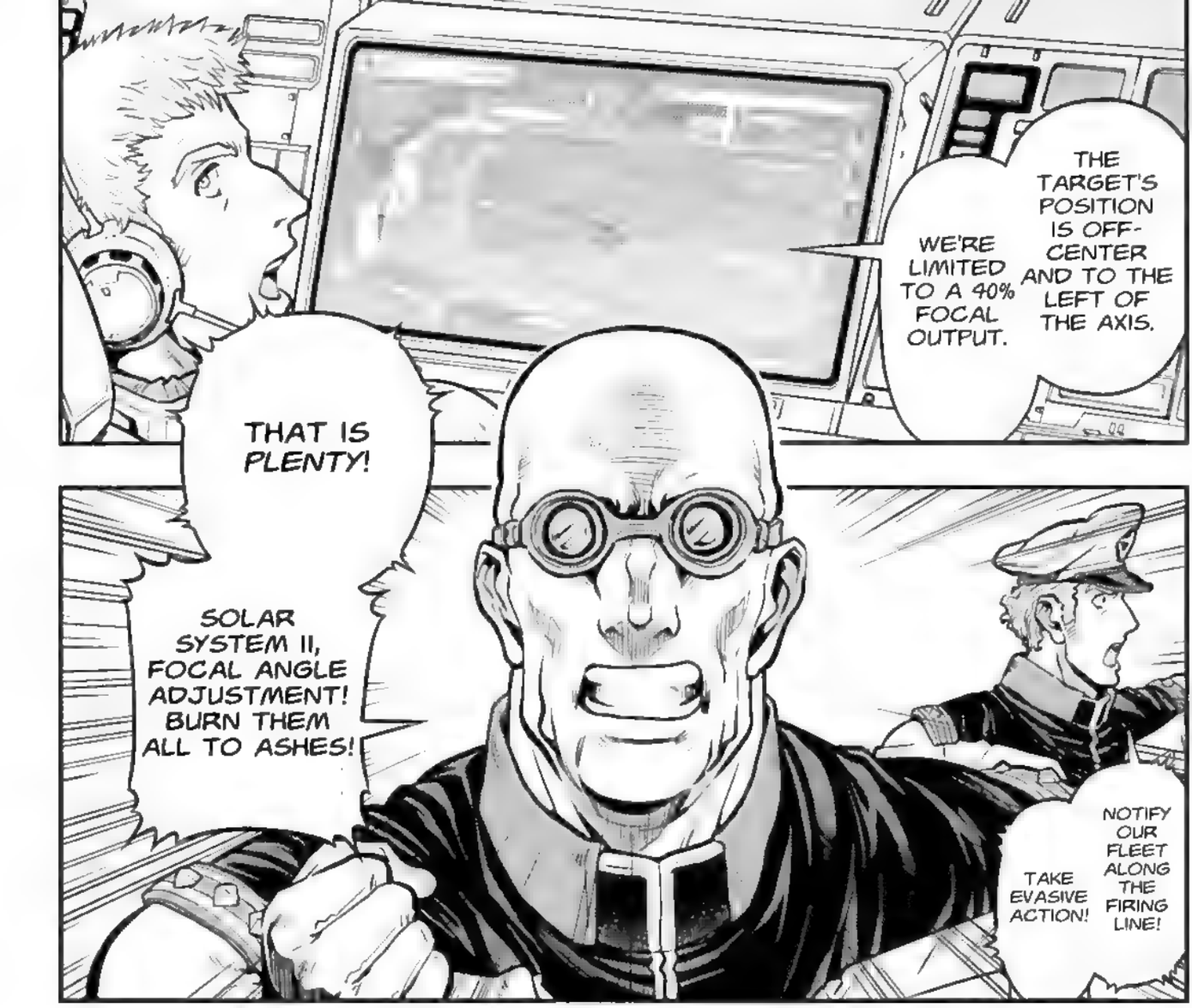

KELLY! I DON'T CARE WHETHER IT'S THE FEDERATION, THE ZEON, OR THE CIMA FLEET!
WE'RE GOING TO THERE TO TAKE DOWN GATO!
OF COURSE, WHY ELSE DO YOU THINK I TAGGED ALONG?
STILL, THERE'S CIMA...
KELLY!
RIGHT, RIGHT. I WON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD.

THE NEUE ZIEL IS A NASTY BASTARD WHEN IT'S AT A DISTANCE, ISN'T IT?
STILL, WHY DOES HE HAVE TO BE SO GAUDY WITH JUST ONE UNIT?
IT'S LIKE HE'S USING IT AS BAIT...
SO THEN WHAT'S THE POINT?
CIMA, PULL BACK!

SO, YOU CAME, AFTER ALL, GUNDAM!!

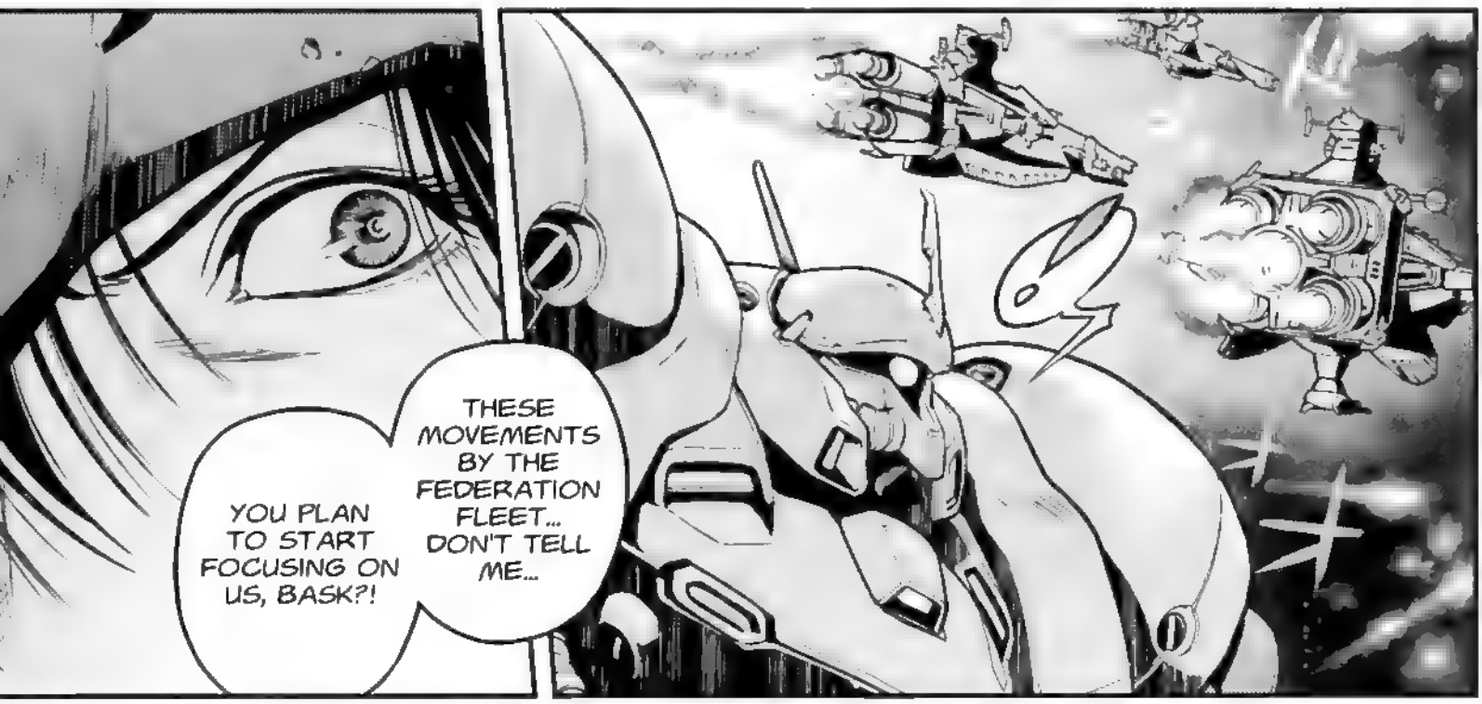
WHAT THE HELL KIND OF BATTLE IS THIS?
THE POWER OUTPUT IS OFF THE CHARTS!!

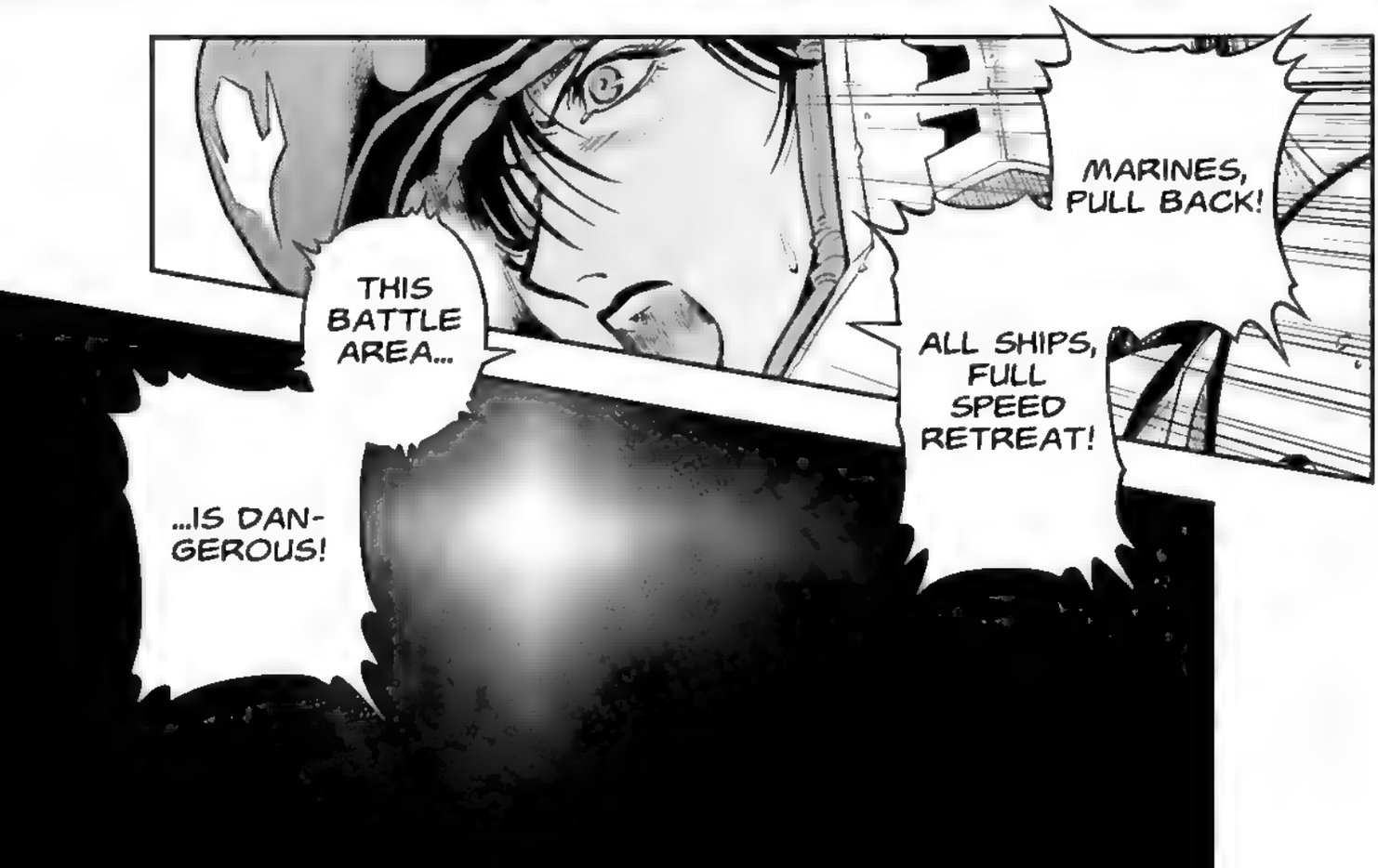
FOCUS IT, RIGHT NOW!
WE'RE GOING TO TAKE OUT BOTH THE NIGHTMARE OF SOLOMON AND THE GUNDAM!
THIS IS A GOLDEN OPPORTU-NITY!
BUT, CAPTAIN!
ADJUST THE SOLAR SYSTEM II'S FOCAL ANGLE ON THEM!
CAPTAIN BASK, PLEASE WAIT!
RIGHT NOW, OUR FLEET IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE FIRING LINE! PLUS, THE CIMA FLEET IS AS WELL...


THE TARGET'S POSITION IS OFF-CENTER AND TO THE LEFT OF THE AXIS.
WE'RE LIMITED TO A 40% FOCAL OUTPUT.
THAT IS *PLENTY*!
SOLAR SYSTEM II, FOCAL ANGLE ADJUSTMENT! BURN THEM ALL TO ASHES!
NOTIFY OUR FLEET ALONG THE FIRING LINE!
TAKE EVASIVE ACTION!

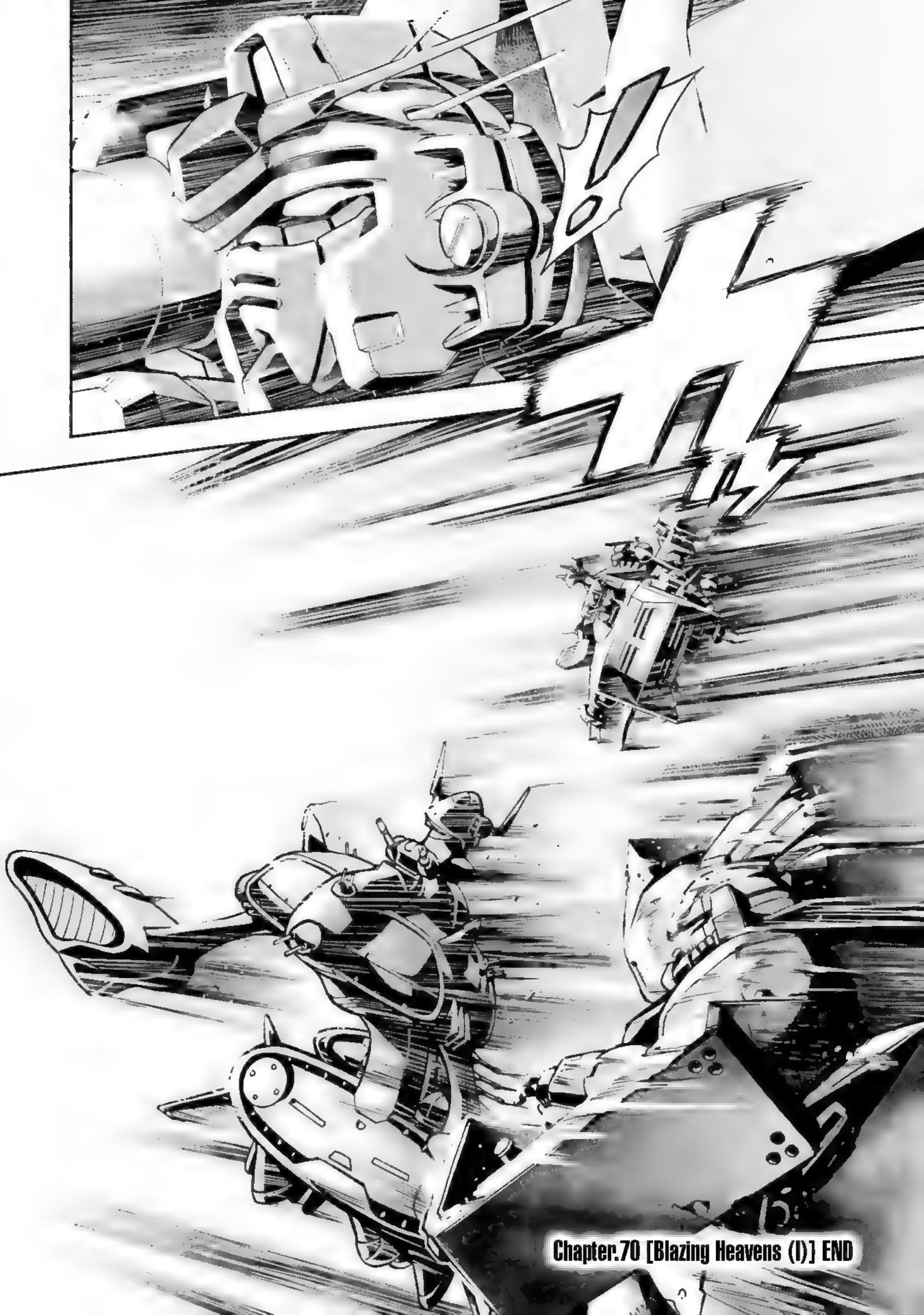
WHY, THEY'RE... THEY'RE CHANGING THE FOCAL ANGLE?!
THEY'RE TARGET-ING COM-MANDER GATO...?

WE STILL HAVEN'T MANAGED TO TAKE OUT THEIR CONTROL SHIP!
DAMN!

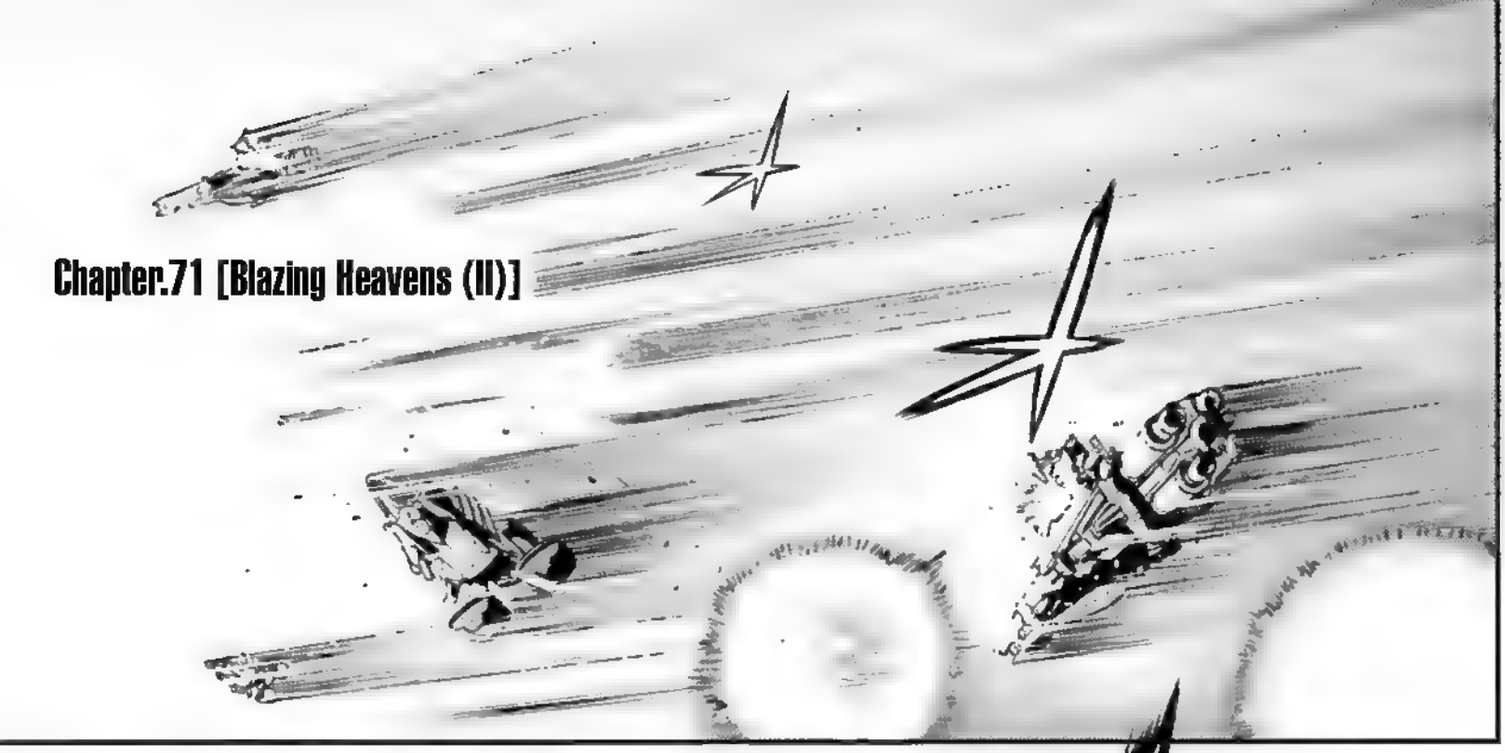

YOU PLAN TO START FOCUSING ON US, BASK?!
THESE MOVEMENTS BY THE FEDERATION FLEET... DON'T TELL ME...

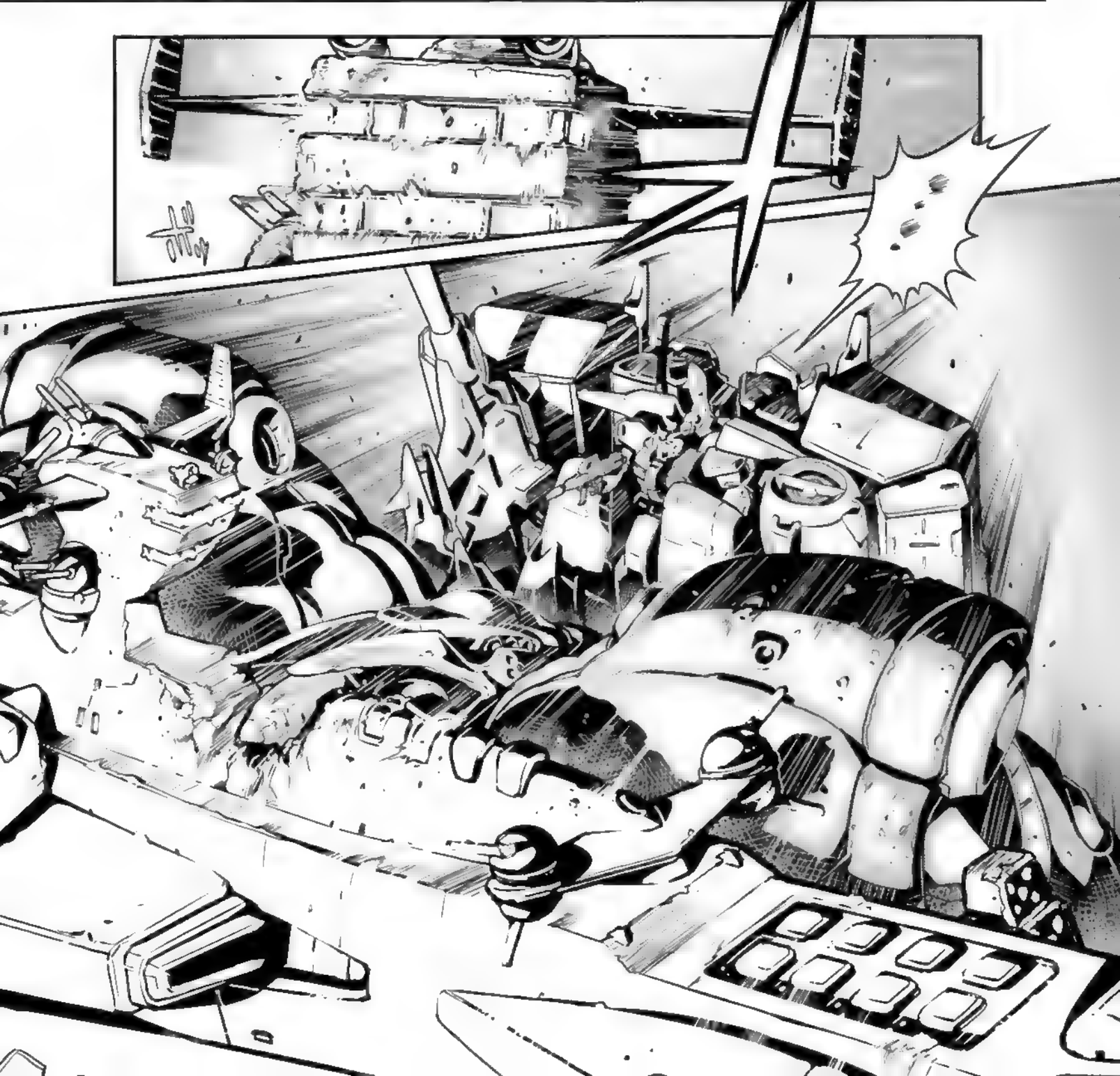

MARINES, PULL BACK!
ALL SHIPS, FULL SPEED RETREAT!
THIS BATTLE AREA...
...IS DAN-GEROUS!

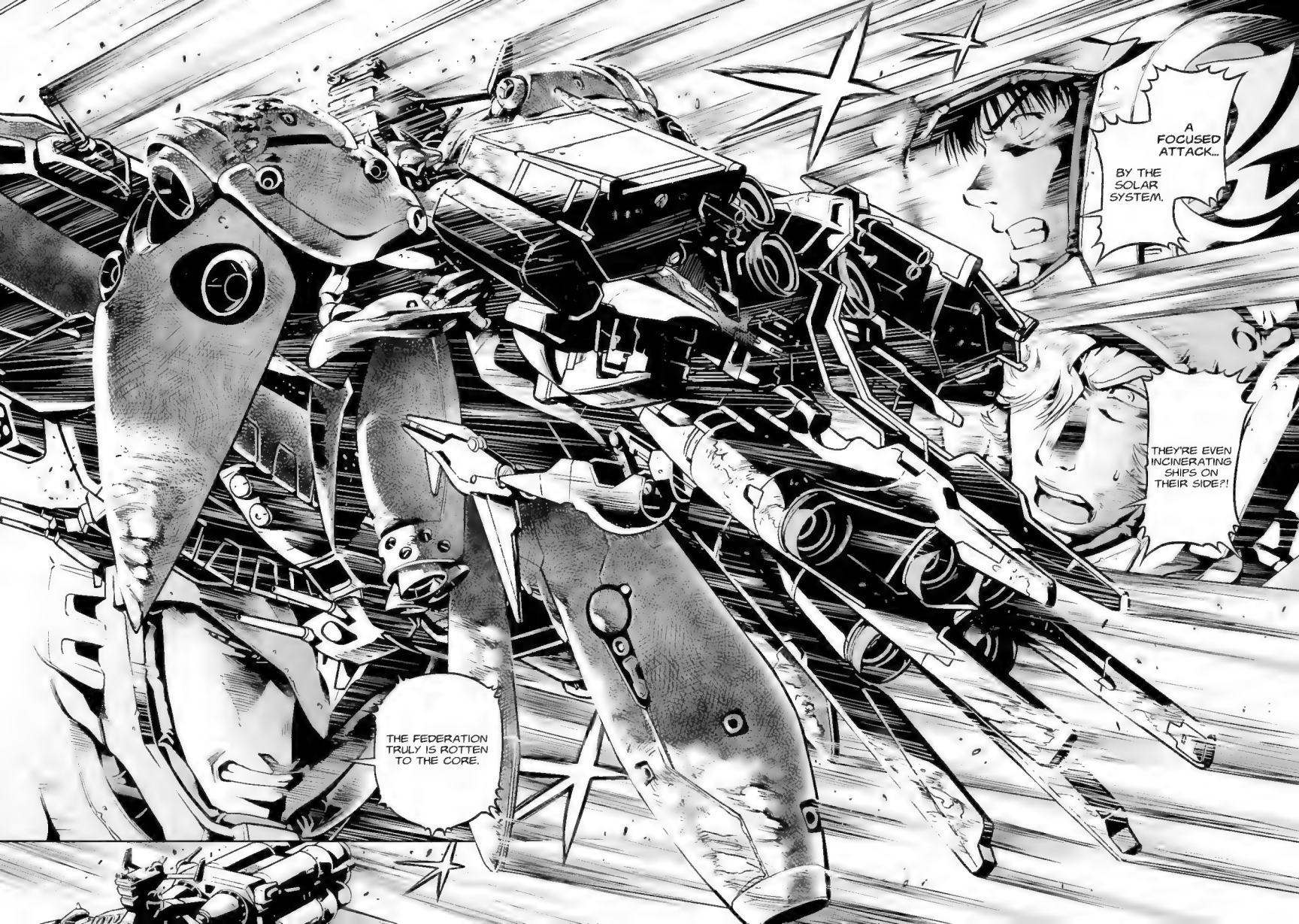
DAMN BASK!!
...
WHAT IS THAT?
LIGHT?
SO THIS IS...


Chapter.70 [Blazing Heavens (I)] END

Chapter.71 [Blazing Heavens (II)]






A FOCUSED ATTACK...
BY THE SOLAR SYSTEM.
THEY'RE EVEN INCINERATING SHIPS ON THEIR SIDE?!
THE FEDERATION TRULY IS ROTTEN TO THE CORE.

BASK...

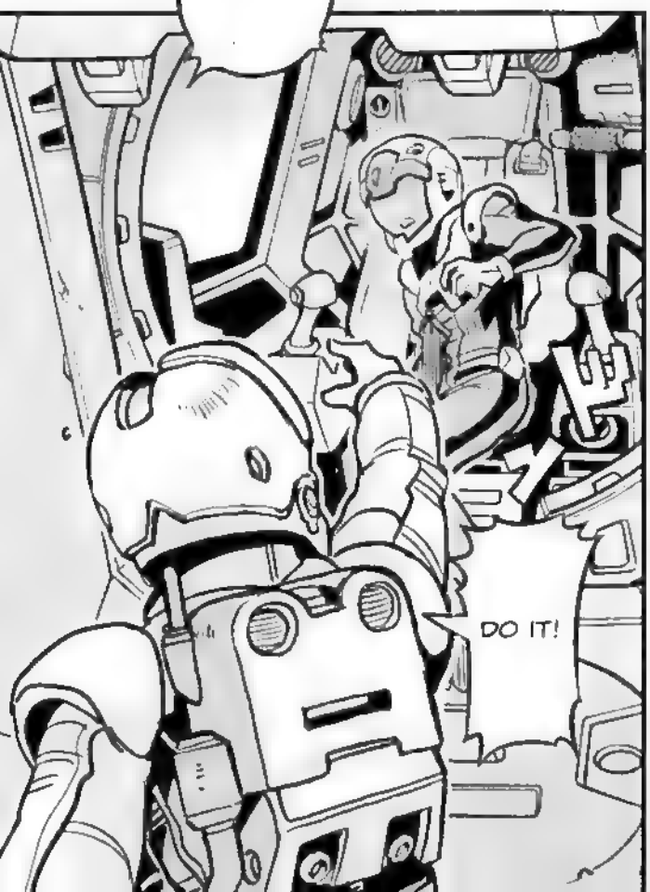
!!
WHAT THE?!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
JUST WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE! WE'RE USING THE LILI MARLEEN AS A SHIELD FOR YOU, MS. CIMA!
HUH? ARE YOU INSANE?! I NEVER GAVE YOU THOSE ORDERS!

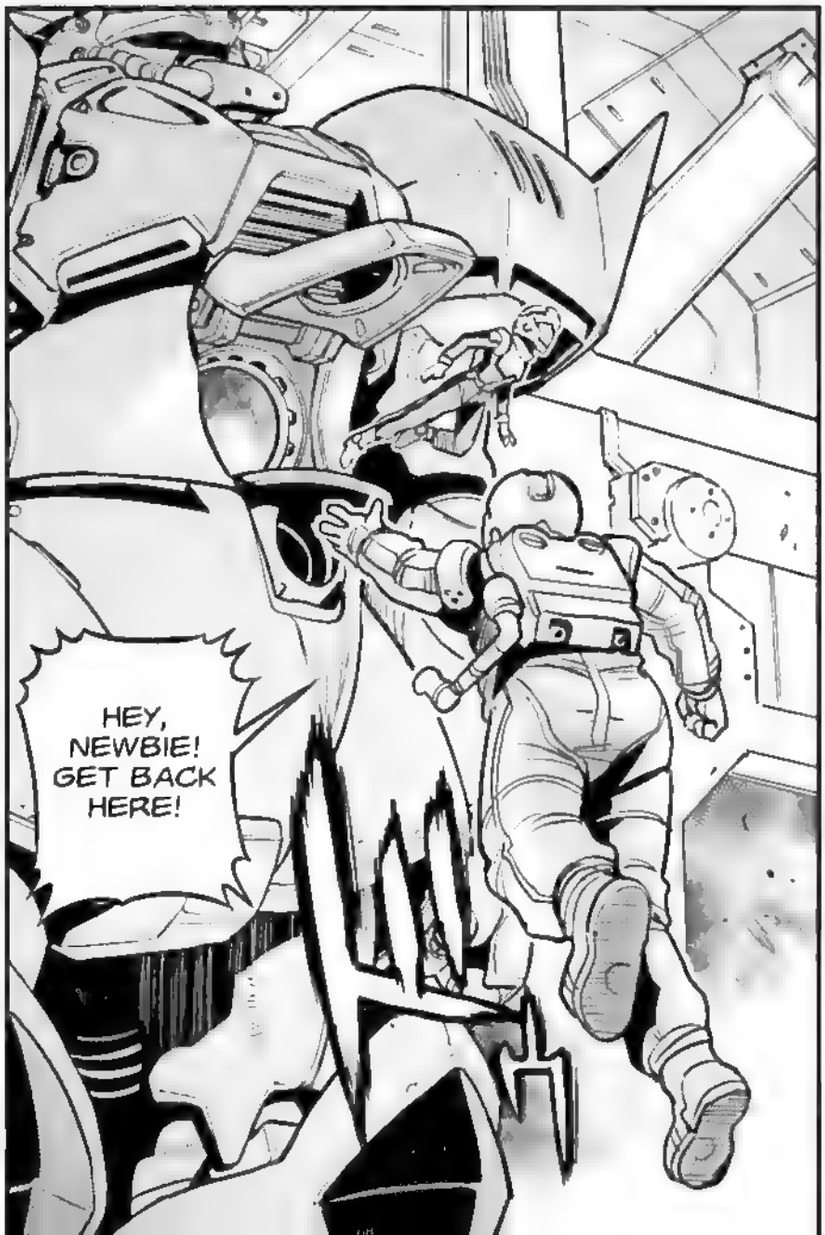
DO YOU HEAR ME, KOSCEL?! THE SHIP WON'T HOLD!
LOWER THE PROTECTIVE SHUTTERS! CLOSE ALL BULKHEADS!
SURFACE TEMPERATURES ARE STILL RISING. WE'RE EXCEEDING THEIR LIMITS!
HOLD ON! THIS SHIP IS DESIGNED FOR ATMOSPHERIC REENTRY!
EMER-GENCY EVACUA-TION!
ALL CREW THROUGHOUT THE SHIP ARE TO EVACUATE TO THE RESIDENTIAL BLOCK!
I REPEAT. EMERGENCY EVACUA-TION!

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS...
...WHEN YOU TRUST THE FEDDIES!

THE AMMO'S GONNA BLOW!

GET IN THE FREAKING COCKPIT! IT'LL GIVE YOU A BETTER CHANCE AT SURVIV-ING!

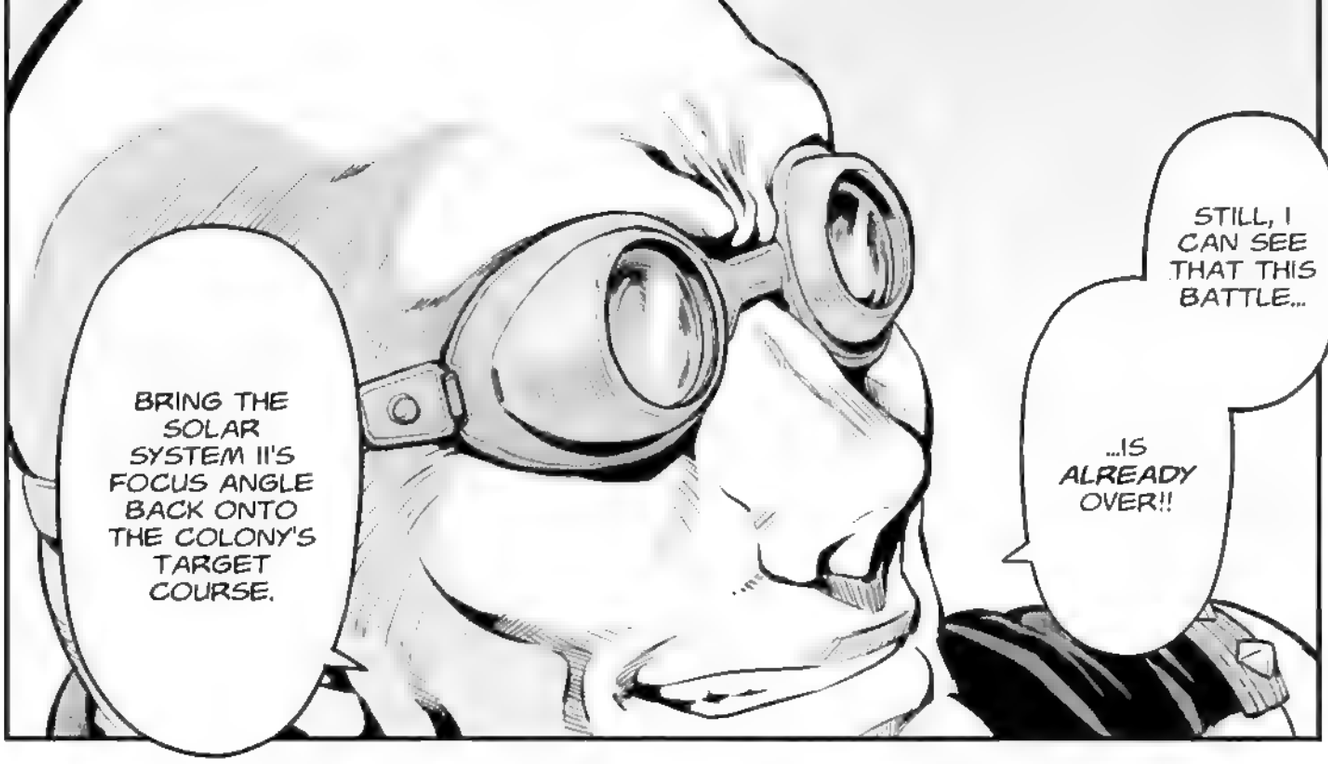

BUT...
DO IT!

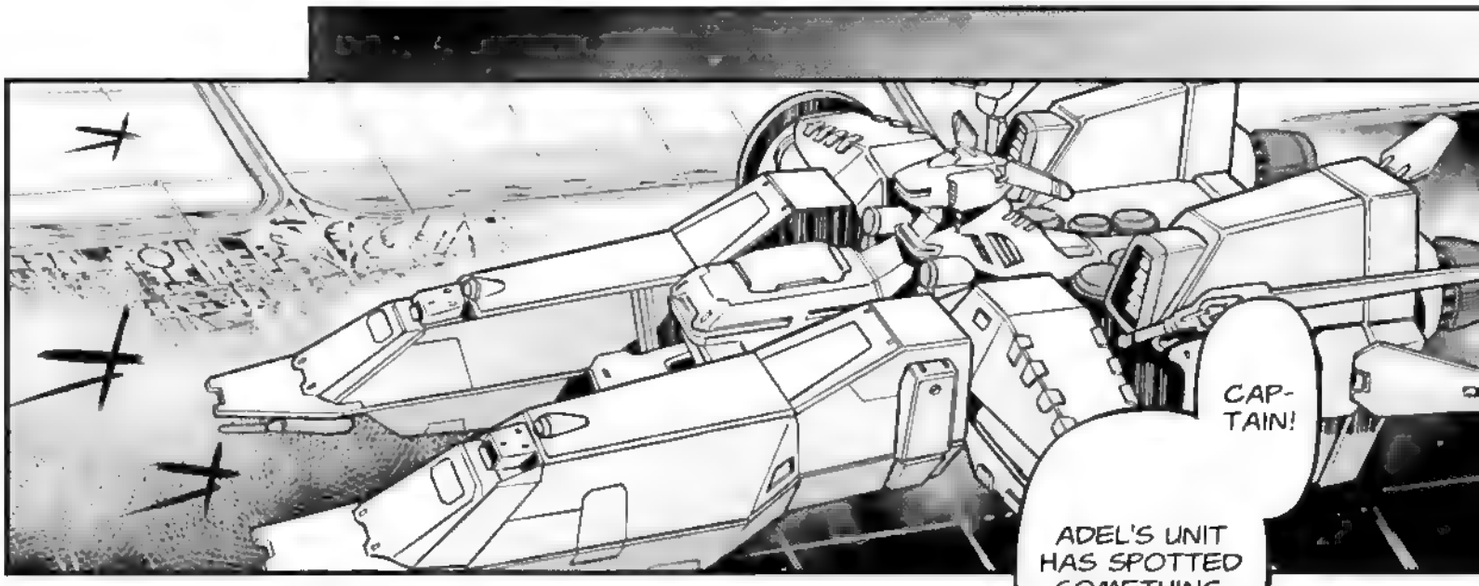

HEY, NEWBIE! GET BACK HERE!

THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL I'M GOING TO DIE HERE!
I'VE FINALLY BEEN ACKNOWL-EDGED AS A MARINE...
A FIRE HAS BROKEN OUT IN THE HANGAR!
THERE'S NO TIME FOR DAMAGE CONTROL!
ENGINES FULL STOP!
IF MS. CIMA GETS CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE, WE'RE SCREWED!
GAH!
YOU IDIOTS! THE SURVIVAL OF THE FLEET IS OUR PRIORITY!

WE'LL FOLLOW YOU TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.
NOT EVEN DEATH CAN CURE STUPID-ITY.
CHRIST... HOW MUCH LONGER AM I GOING TO HAVE TO LEAD THIS MERRY BAND OF IDIOTS AROUND FOR?
YOU'RE THE ONLY REASON WE HAVE A FLEET, MS. CIMA!
EVEN IF IT'S JUST ONE SHIP OR ONE MAN, WE'LL SURVIVE.
MS.
CI--

HURRY UP AND CONFIRM THAT WE SHOT THEM ALL THEM DOWN!
THERE IS CONSIDERABLE AMOUNTS OF DEBRIS. IT'LL LIKELY TAKE SOME TIME.
THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS OF DEBRIS FROM FRIENDLY FORCES AS WELL...
ANAVEL GATO OF THE DELAZ FLEET!
THE GUNDAM STARTED THIS ENTIRE AFFAIR!
CIMA'S MARINE FLEET DEMANDED TO BE INCORPORATED INTO OUR FORCES IN EXCHANGE FOR SHIFTING SIDES!
AND WE TOOK THEM ALL OUT IN ONE SHOT!
SOME SACRIFICE IS UNAVOIDABLE!
GET RID OF THEM ALL!
EVERY LAST ONE OF THE REMAINING DELAZ FLEET FORCES! THEY'RE AN EYESORE!

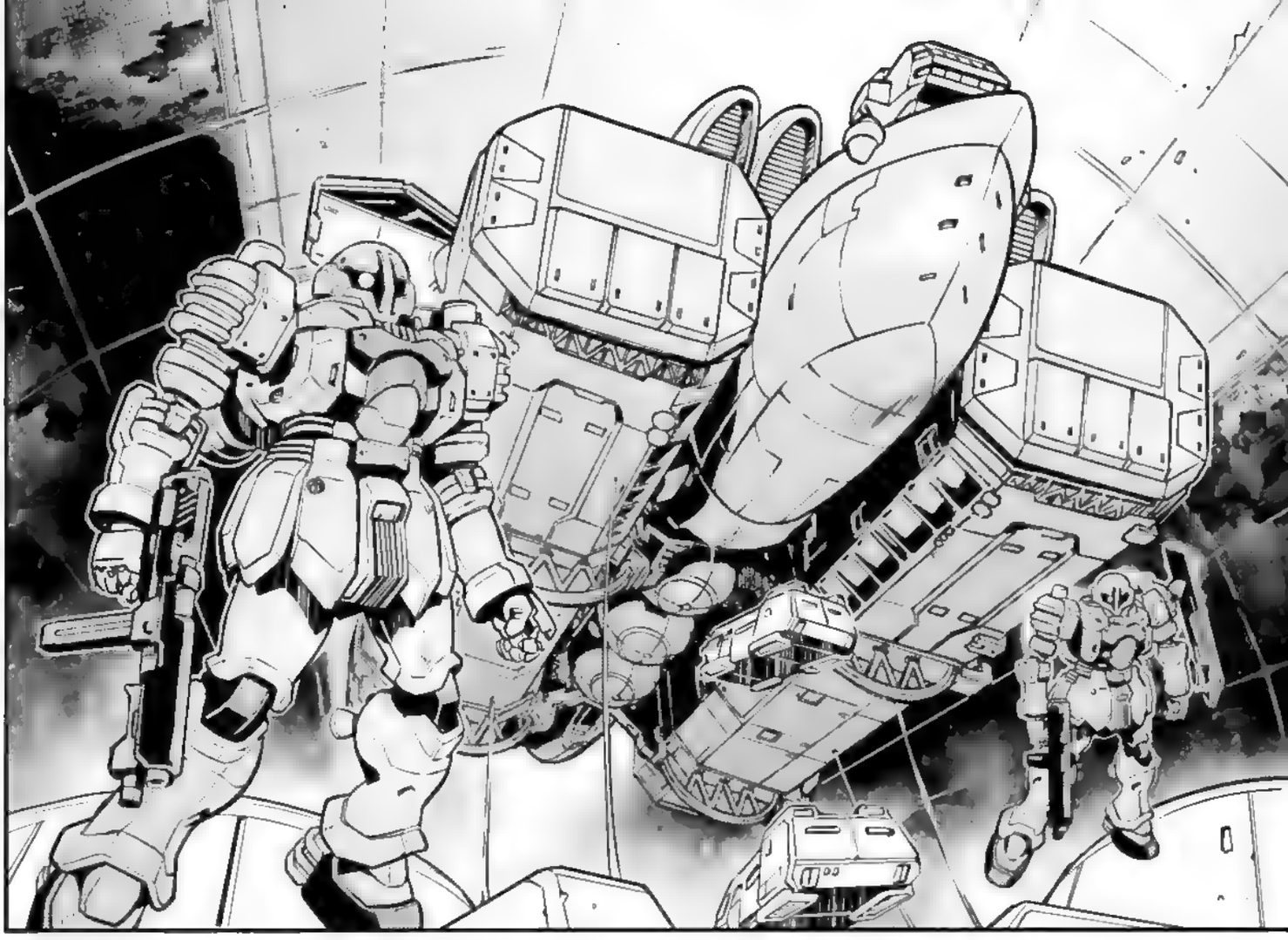

BRING THE SOLAR SYSTEM II'S FOCUS ANGLE BACK ONTO THE COLONY'S TARGET COURSE.
STILL, I CAN SEE THAT THIS BATTLE...
...IS ALREADY OVER!!


CAP-TAIN!
ADEL'S UNIT HAS SPOTTED SOMETHING, SIR!

A LARGE NUMBER OF EXPLOSIVES?

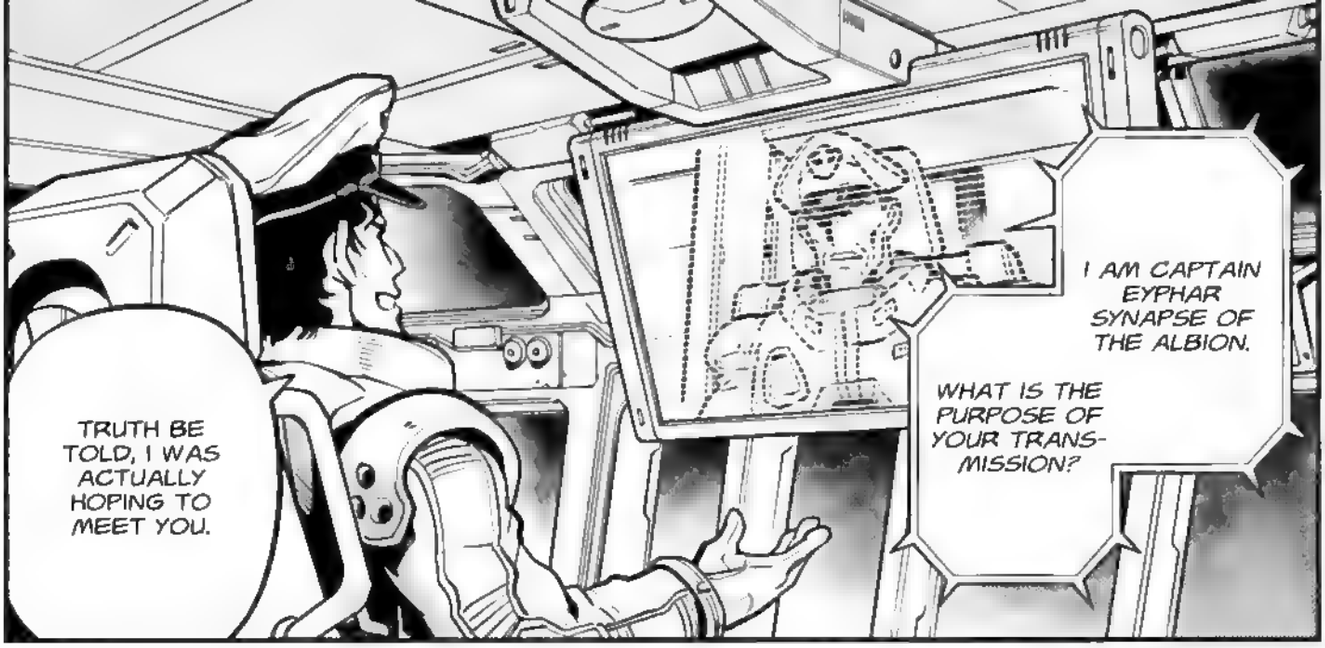
THE ENEMY?!
NO, SIR... IT'S...

WHAT WOULD DELAZ WANT WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT INSIDE THE COLONY?
...
IGNORE IT! WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
MONSHA'S UNIT OUT IN FRONT OF US HAS MADE CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY AT THE TARGET POINT!
SO, AN ENEMY UNIT WAS GUARDING THE CONTROL FACILITY?
SEND ALL MOBILE SUITS TO THAT POINT!
MONSHA'S UNIT IS REQUESTING INSTRUC-TIONS!
HE'S UNABLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN FRIEND AND FOE, SIR!
WHAT THE HELL DO THEY WANT ME TO DO? CHRIST, THIS IS ANNOYING!



INCOMING TRANSMISSION FROM THE ZEON SHIP! SHALL WE REPLY?

I AM COMMANDER NOWWEST, CAPTAIN OF THE CIVILIAN COMMANDEERED SHIP URDGARD.
PUT THEM ON THE MONITOR!


I AM CAPTAIN EYPHAR SYNAPSE OF THE ALBION.
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TRANS-MISSION?
TRUTH BE TOLD, I WAS ACTUALLY HOPING TO MEET YOU.

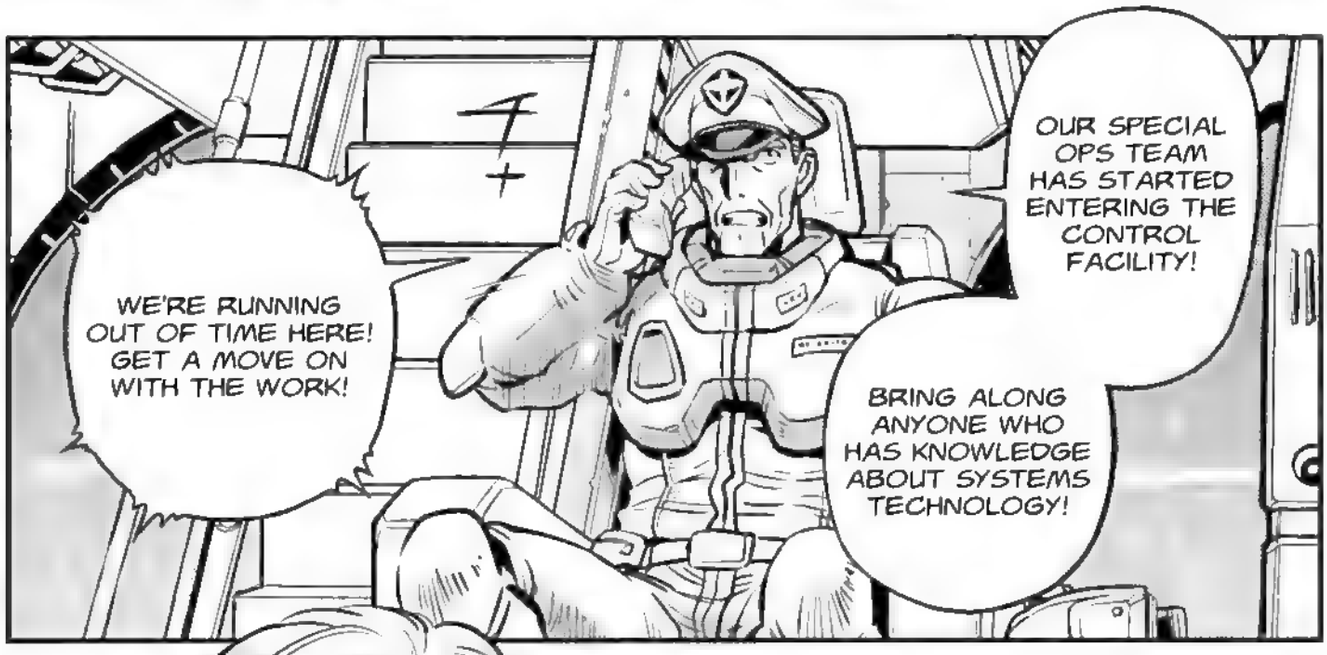
I'VE ALWAYS ADMIRED THE WAY YOU'VE MANAGED TO FIGHT THE DELAZ FLEET WITH JUST ONE SHIP.
I'M QUITE SURPRISED YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO THIS...
TO ALTER THE COURSE OF THE COLONY.
BUT, I NEVER IMAGINED THAT YOU'D BE ABLE TO MAKE AN ASSAULT LANDING UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES.

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS WHIMSICAL NONSENSE.
AM I TO UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE THE ENEMY?
DON'T GET SO FLUSTERED. WE'LL CEDE THE CONTROL FACILITY TO YOU, BUT...
SHOULD YOU ATTACK US DURING OUR RETREAT, IT WILL END UP, AS YOU SAY, IN A CATASTROPHE.

AND BY "CATASTROPHE," I TAKE IT YOU MEAN THE EXPLOSIVES YOU'VE SET UP?
VERY PERCEPTIVE, CAPTAIN.
I'LL ALSO TELL YOU THAT WE'VE LEFT SOME PROPELLANT...
...TO MAKE COURSE CORRECTIONS OUT OF RESPECT FOR YOUR WISDOM.

BUT, WE'VE TAMPERED WITH THE SYSTEM...
...SO IT CAN'T BE CONTROLLED FROM THE FACILITY.
IT WOULD BE WISE NOT TO TAMPER WITH IT HALFWAY.
NOW THEN, UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN...

PERHAPS HE IS TELLING THE TRUTH?
STILL, AS FOR TAMPERING WITH THE SYSTEM, IF WE CONSIDER EVERYTHING THEY'VE BEEN DOING HERE...
SO, THE EXPLOSIVES WERE A SPUR-OF-THE-MOMENT LIE TO PREVENT US FROM ATTACKING HIM.


WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME HERE! GET A MOVE ON WITH THE WORK!
BRING ALONG ANYONE WHO HAS KNOWLEDGE ABOUT SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY!
OUR SPECIAL OPS TEAM HAS STARTED ENTERING THE CONTROL FACILITY!

AS AN ENGINEER, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP THEM...
I'D LIKE YOU TO LET ME GO INTO THE FACILITY, PLEASE.
CAPTAIN SYNAPSE...

...
NO.
HOWEVER...
I'M SURE LIEU-TENANT URAKI IS JUST FINE.
WELL, MAYBE...
OPERATORS REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE GUNDAM SINCE WE ENTERED THE COLONY?
NO...
THERE'S TOO MUCH INTERFERENCE FROM MINOVSKY PARTICLES. WE'RE UNABLE TO TRACK HIS MOVEMENTS.
I'D LIKE TO BE AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE.
...THERE'S NO POINT STAYING HERE.
IF WE'RE UNABLE TO GET THROUGH TO THE GUNDAM...

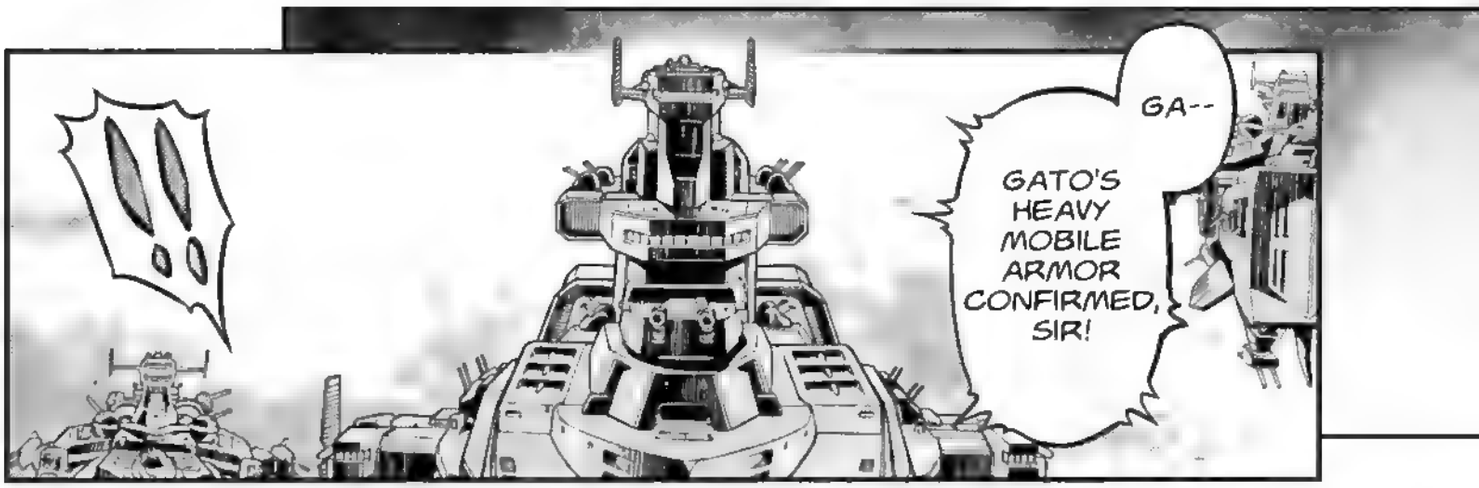
KOU...
ハァ
ハァ
ハァ

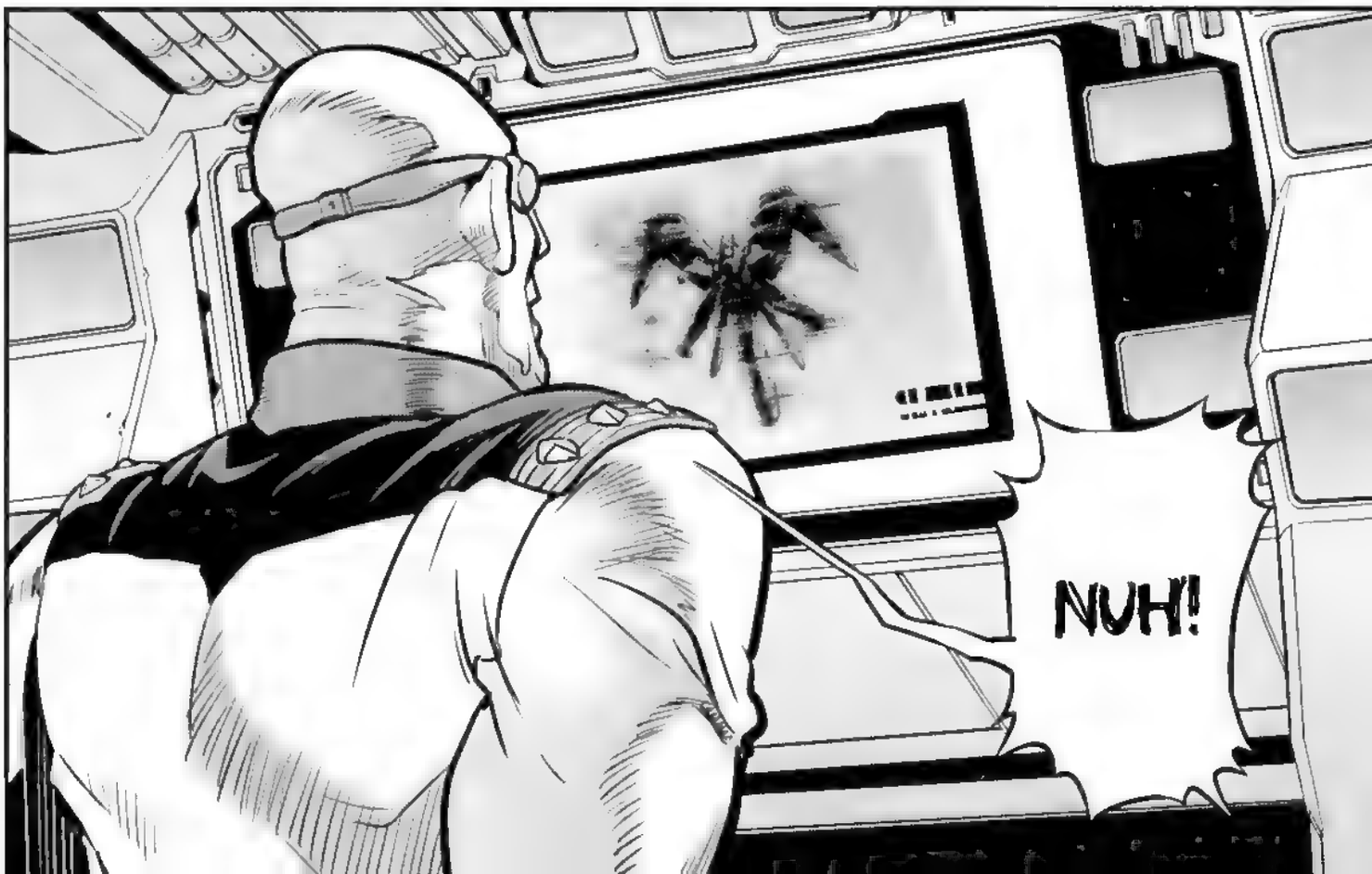
I
!!
IT LOOKS LIKE THE MIRROR'S FOCAL ATTACK HAS STOPPED.
YOU OKAY OVER THERE, URAKI?
OUR MAIN CAMERA'S BEEN BURNED OUT.
I'M SWITCHING TO OUR SUB CAMERA NOW.
UP

WE WERE SAVED THANKS TO GATO, HUH?
URAKI!!
AND HERE I THOUGHT...
...THE FEDDIES WERE YOUR ALLIES?

YOU COULD'VE AVOIDED ALL THIS HEARTBREAK...
IF YOU WEREN'T A MEMBER...
...OF THAT ROTTEN FEDERATION...

HOLD IT, URAKI!
WE'VE GOT SERIOUS DAMAGE TO OUR SUIT!
YOU THINK YOU'RE GETTING AWAY, GATO?!

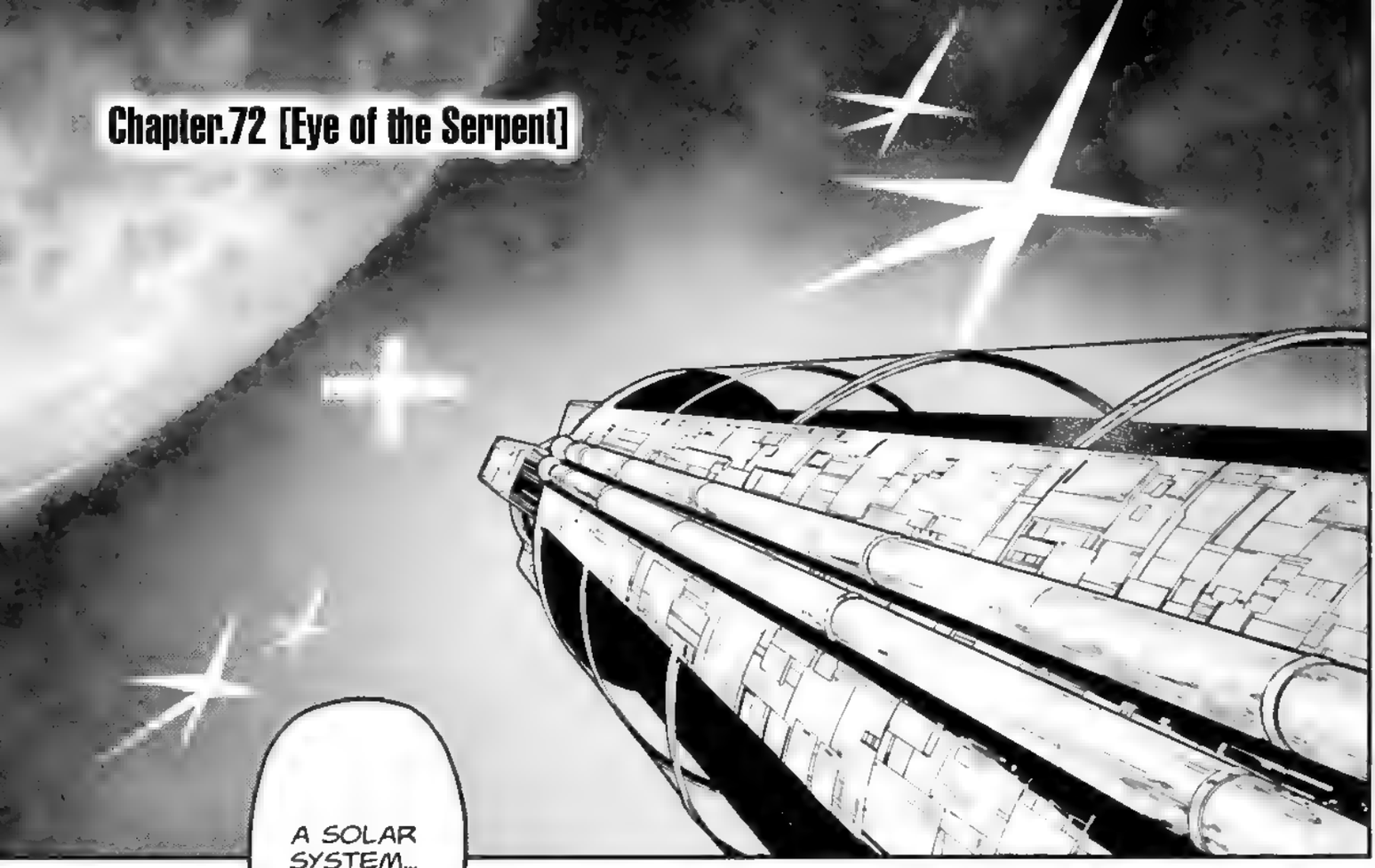

GA--
GATO'S HEAVY MOBILE ARMOR CONFIRMED, SIR!

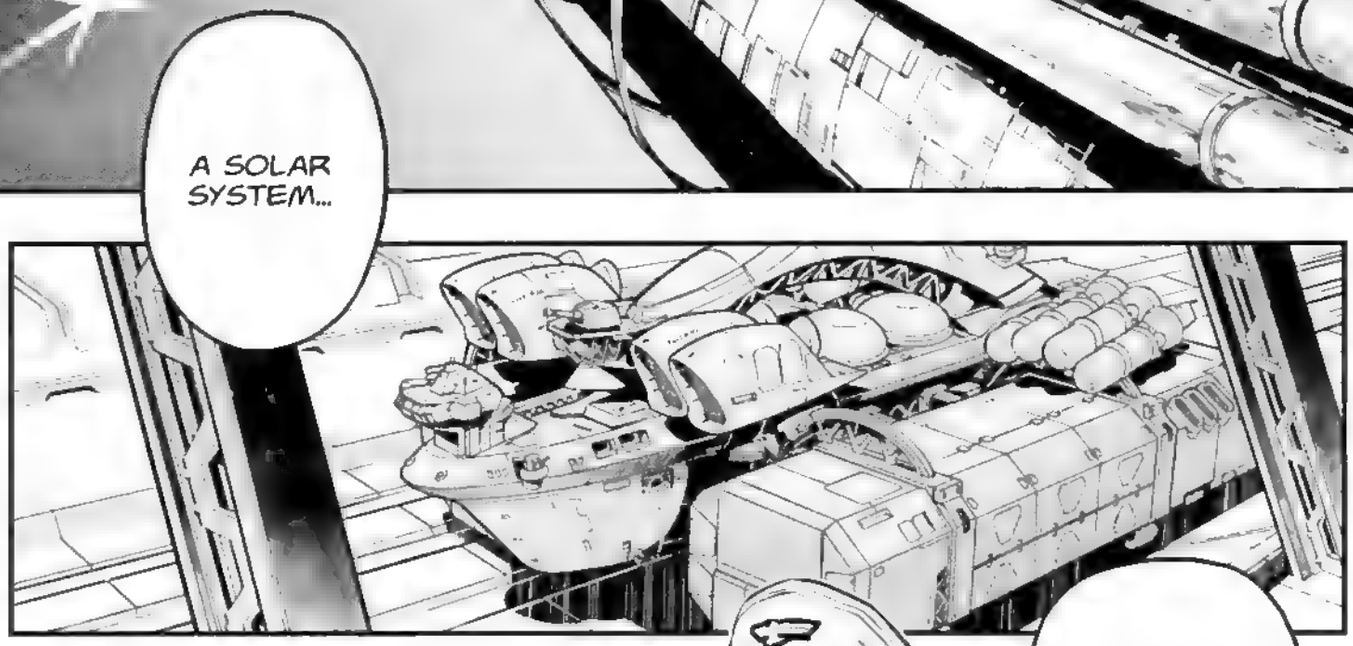

NUH!

THE NIGHT-MARE...
...OF SOLOMON.
YOUR DEFEAT WAS SEALED...
...WHEN YOU CHANGED THE FOCAL ANGLE OF THE MIRRORS ON THE NEUE ZIEL.
THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO...
...TO STOP THIS COLONY!!

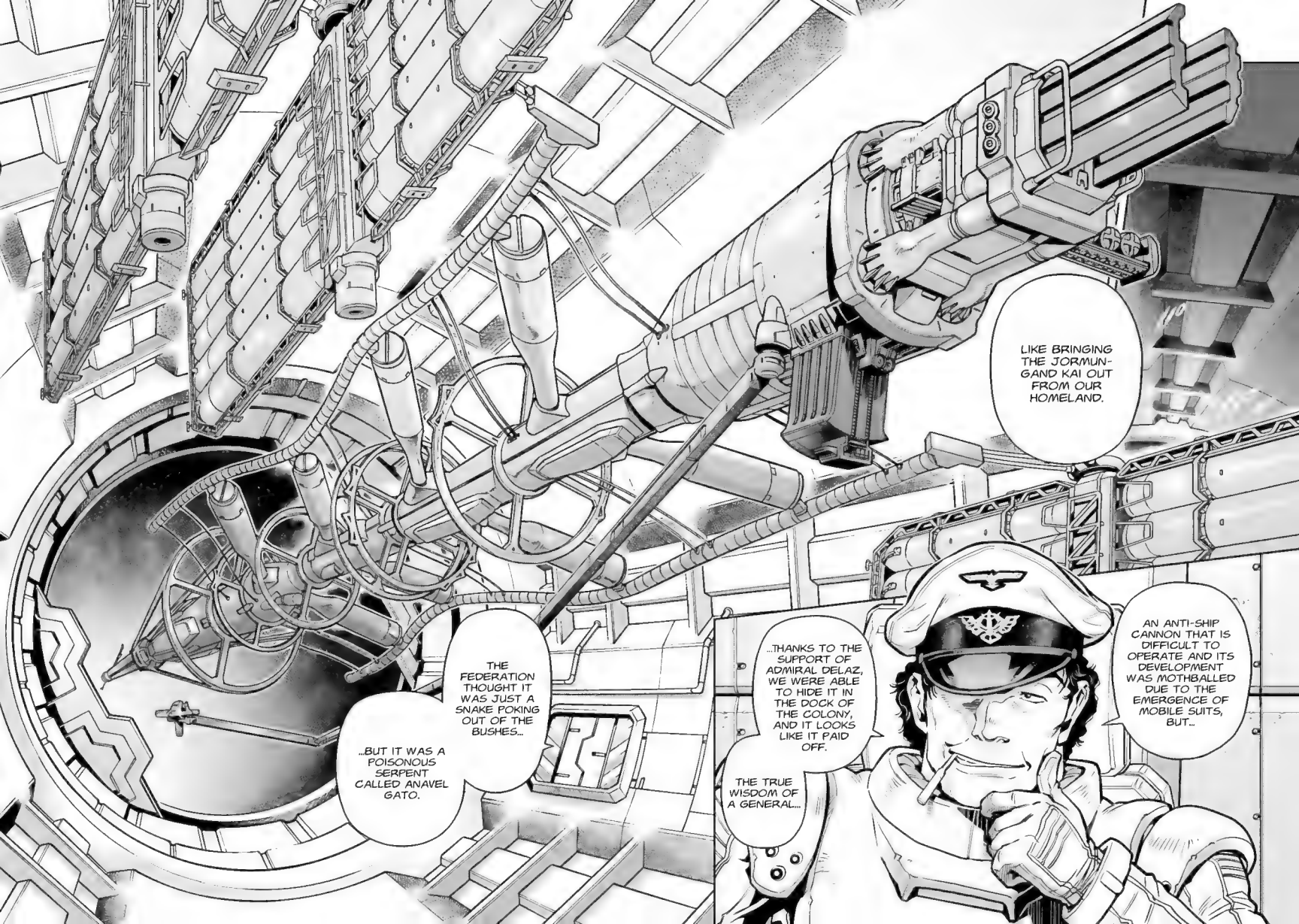
第71話「光る宙（ソラ）（II）」END

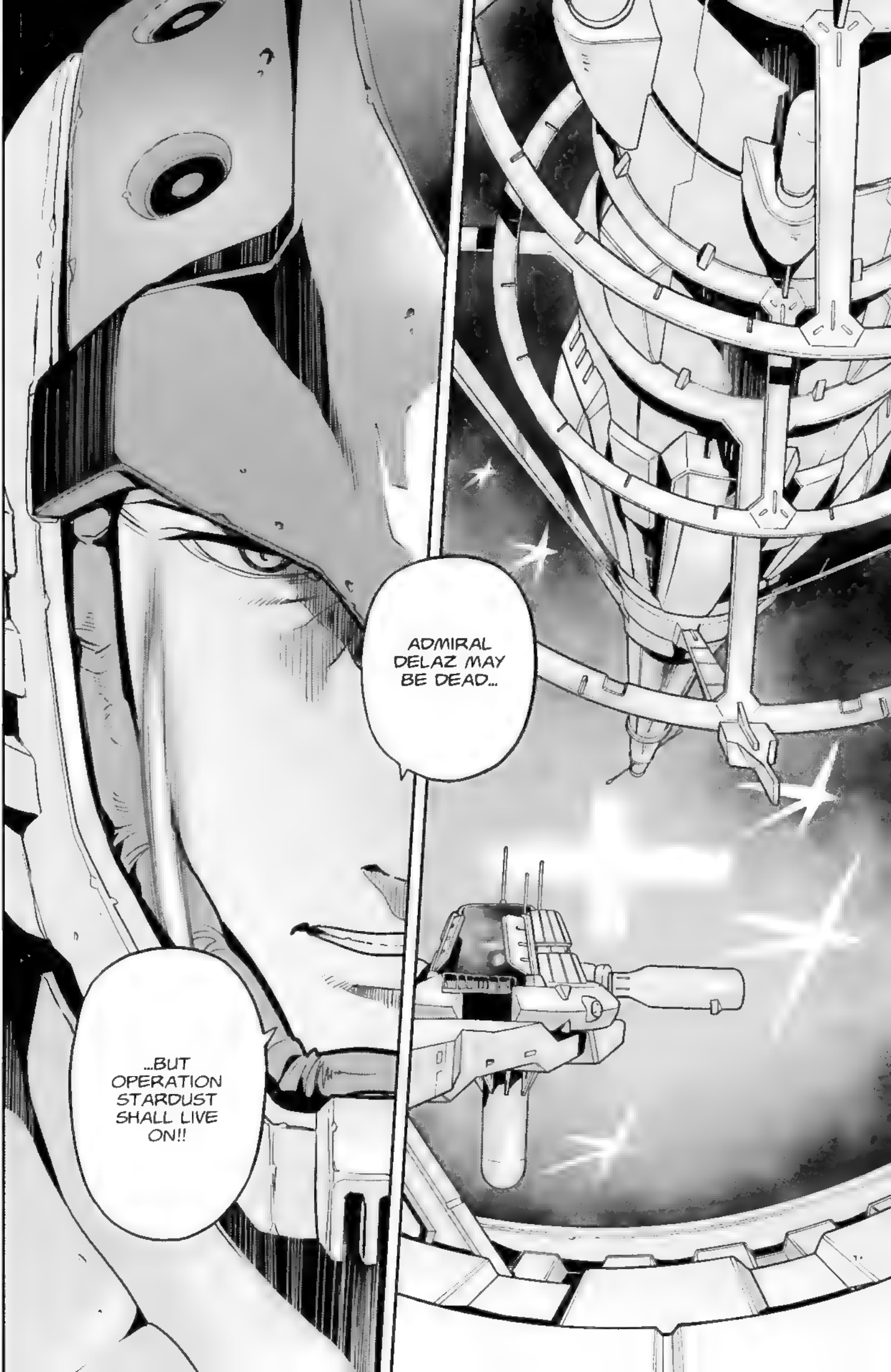
Chapter.72 [Eye of the Serpent]





IF THEY WERE ACTUALLY ON POINT WITH THEIR FOCAL ATTACK...
...THEN A MASS THE SIZE OF A COLONY REALLY WOULD GO BOOM IN A MATTER OF MINUTES.
BUT, HIS EXCELLENCY DELAZ HAD SOME COUNTER-MEASURES IN MIND.


LIKE BRINGING THE JORMUNGAND KAI OUT FROM OUR HOMELAND.
AN ANTI-SHIP CANNON THAT IS DIFFICULT TO OPERATE AND ITS DEVELOPMENT WAS MOTHBALLED DUE TO THE EMERGENCE OF MOBILE SUITS, BUT...
...THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF ADMIRAL DELAZ, WE WERE ABLE TO HIDE IT IN THE DOCK OF THE COLONY, AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT PAID OFF.
THE TRUE WISDOM OF A GENERAL...
THE FEDERATION THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A SNAKE POKING OUT OF THE BUSHES...
...BUT IT WAS A POISONOUS SERPENT CALLED ANAVEL GATO.


ADMIRAL DELAZ MAY BE DEAD...
...BUT OPERATION STARDUST SHALL LIVE ON!!

SPECIAL OPS TEAM, SHAKE A LEG! WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME!
WE HAVE TO ALTER THE COLONY'S COURSE BEFORE THE MIRROR'S FOCUS!
WE'VE BREACHED THE CONTROL FACILITY!
NO SIGN OF THE ENEMY! WE'RE HEADED FOR THE CONTROL ROOM!

FIRST, WE NEED TO CHECK THE PROPELLANT TO ALTER THE COURSE! TAKE CONTROL OF THE CONTROLS!
HURRY UP WITH THE WORK!
...

FIVE MUSAI REMAIN IN THE DELAZ FLEET.
CIMA'S MARINES ARE ALMOST ENTIRELY WIPED OUT!

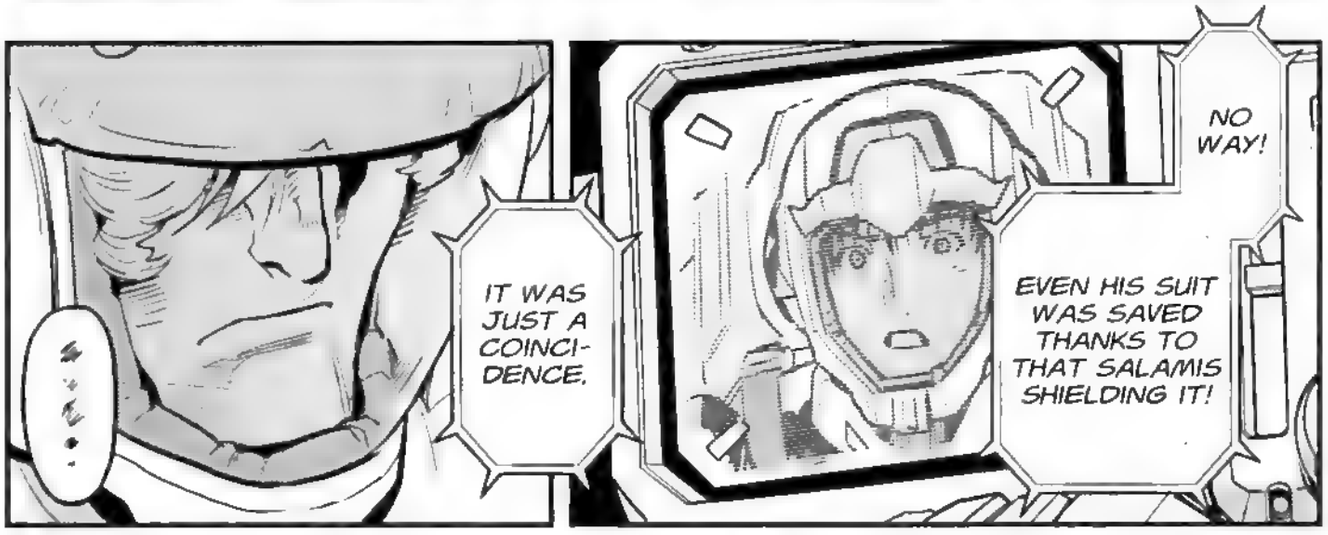
I SEE. SO THE ZEON REMNANTS HAVE FAILED US.
WE CANNOT ALLOW THE COLONY DROP.
WE SHOULD HAVE HAD A SWEEPING VICTORY...

AND YET WHY...
WHY DO YOU CONTINUE TO DO IT...

DELAZ'S OPERATION STARDUST HAS FAILED!!
ANAVEL GATO!!
WHY DON'T YOU STOP PRETENDING TO BE SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT?!

PLEASE CALM DOWN, CAPTAIN BASK.
IT'S ONLY ONE MOBILE ARMOR.
THEN GET ON WITH IT, AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT BASTARD!
IT'S AN EYESORE!
KELLY.
CORRECTIONS TO THE DAMAGED SECTIONS IS FINISHED.
I'M GLAD THE DAMAGE WAS LESS THAN ANTICIPATED.
URAKI...
THE ONLY REASON OUR SUIT SUSTAINED THE DAMAGE WE DID IS BECAUSE OF THE SHADOW OF GATO'S MOBILE ARMOR BLOCKING THE FOCUS.
YEAH, AND?

THEN...
DO YOU THINK IT'S POSSIBLE THAT GATO...
WAS INTENTION-ALLY SHIELDING US?


NO WAY!
EVEN HIS SUIT WAS SAVED THANKS TO THAT SALAMIS SHIELDING IT!
IT WAS JUST A COINCI-DENCE.
...

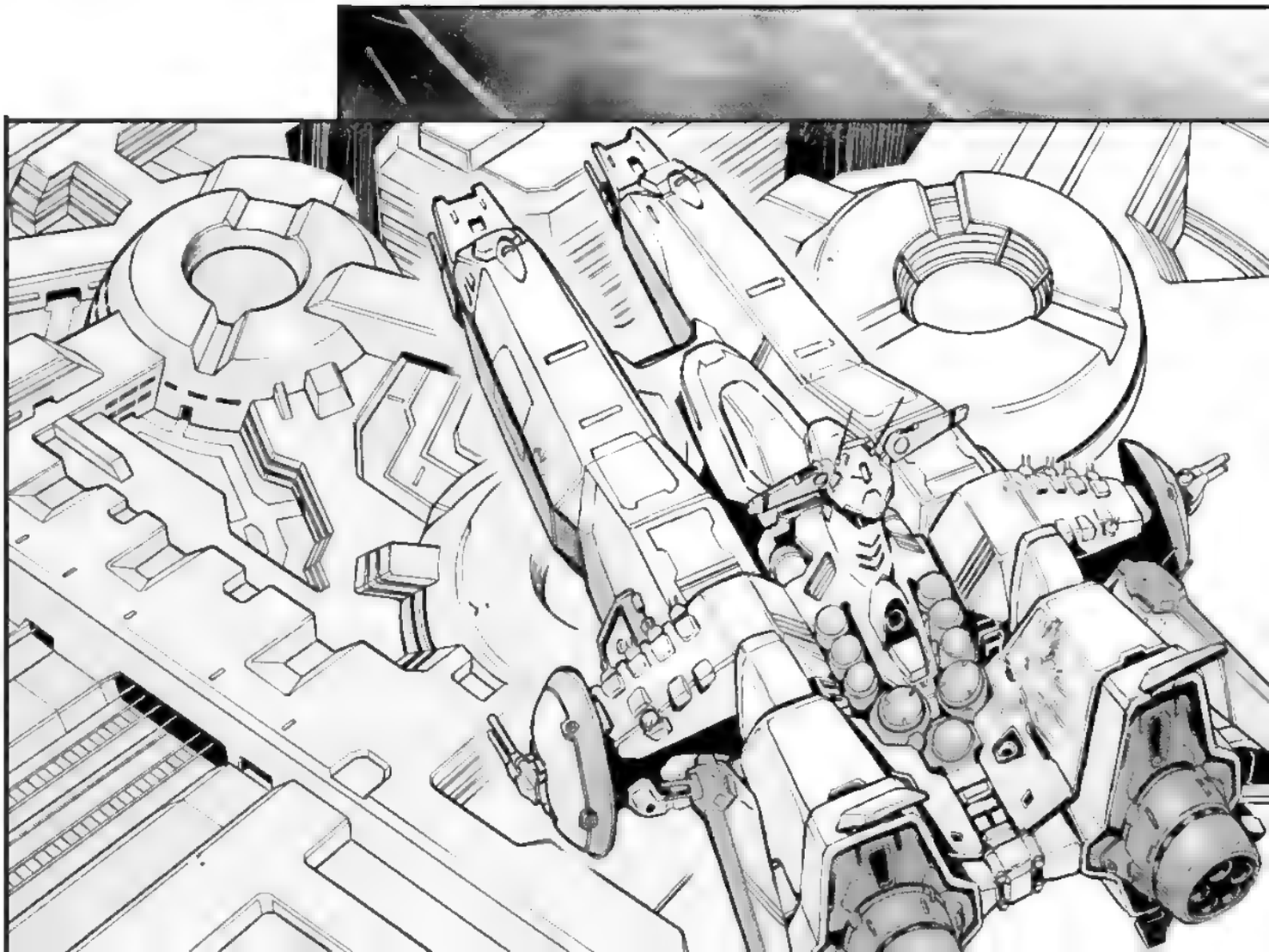
BESIDES, KELLY...
AS A FORMER FRIEND OF YOURS, DO YOU WANT GATO TO SHIELD YOU?
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, THEN WHY DON'T WE JUST SEPARATE HERE AND YOU CAN GO BACK TO HIM?
...

I DON'T CARE WHAT ANYONE THINKS OF ME...
THE FACT IS, I'M A TRAITOR.
BUT, I WON'T TURN TRAITOR TO YOU...
...BECAUSE YOU'RE LIKE A BROTHER BY BLOOD TO ME.

OH...

...
SORRY...
I WAS OUT OF LINE.

BUT...
NEXT TIME WE FIGHT GATO, WE'LL SEPARATE.
FOR NOW, LET'S GO AND BEAT GATO AS A TWO-MAN CELL, KELLY!
RIGHT!



WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT UNTIL THEY ATTACK THE COLONY WITH THE MIRRORS! WHAT'S THE SITUATION?
WELL, THERE'S STILL SOME PROPELLANT REMAINING...
BUT THE SYSTEM IS STILL LOCKED DOWN.
WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN, BUT THINGS AREN'T LOOKING GOOD.
IT MIGHT BE HOPELESS ASKING US TO UNLOCK IT IN TEN MINUTES OR SO...
UM...
I'VE ANALYZED THE ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS THAT WERE INSTALLED.
HUH?
IT'S A SECTION OF CODE...

BUT THIS IS...
...THAT AUTOMATICALLY CONTROLS THE COURSE OF THE COLONY.
...JUST A LITTLE...
...BIT TOO LATE...
THE PROGRAM...
...IS ALREADY ABOUT TO ACTIVATE.

THE COLONY IS STARTING TO ACCEL-ERATE?!
THERE WAS PROPELLANT LEFT FOR COURSE CORRECTION?!
ゴゴゴ
THE FASTER THE COLONY ACCELERATES, THE FASTER THE MIRROR ATTACK...
WE HAVE TO PULL BACK FROM THE COLONY RIGHT NOW!
PULL BACK OUR OPS TEAM IMMEDIATELY! ON THE DOUBLE!

CEASE ALL OPERATIONS AND EVAC BACK TO THE ALBION!
EMER-GENCY EVAC!!
...
!!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?! WE'RE PULLING BACK!!
OPEN UP!

THERE'S NO POINT IN GOING BACK TO THE ALBION.
THERE MUST BE *SOMETHING* HERE THAT CAN HELP US.

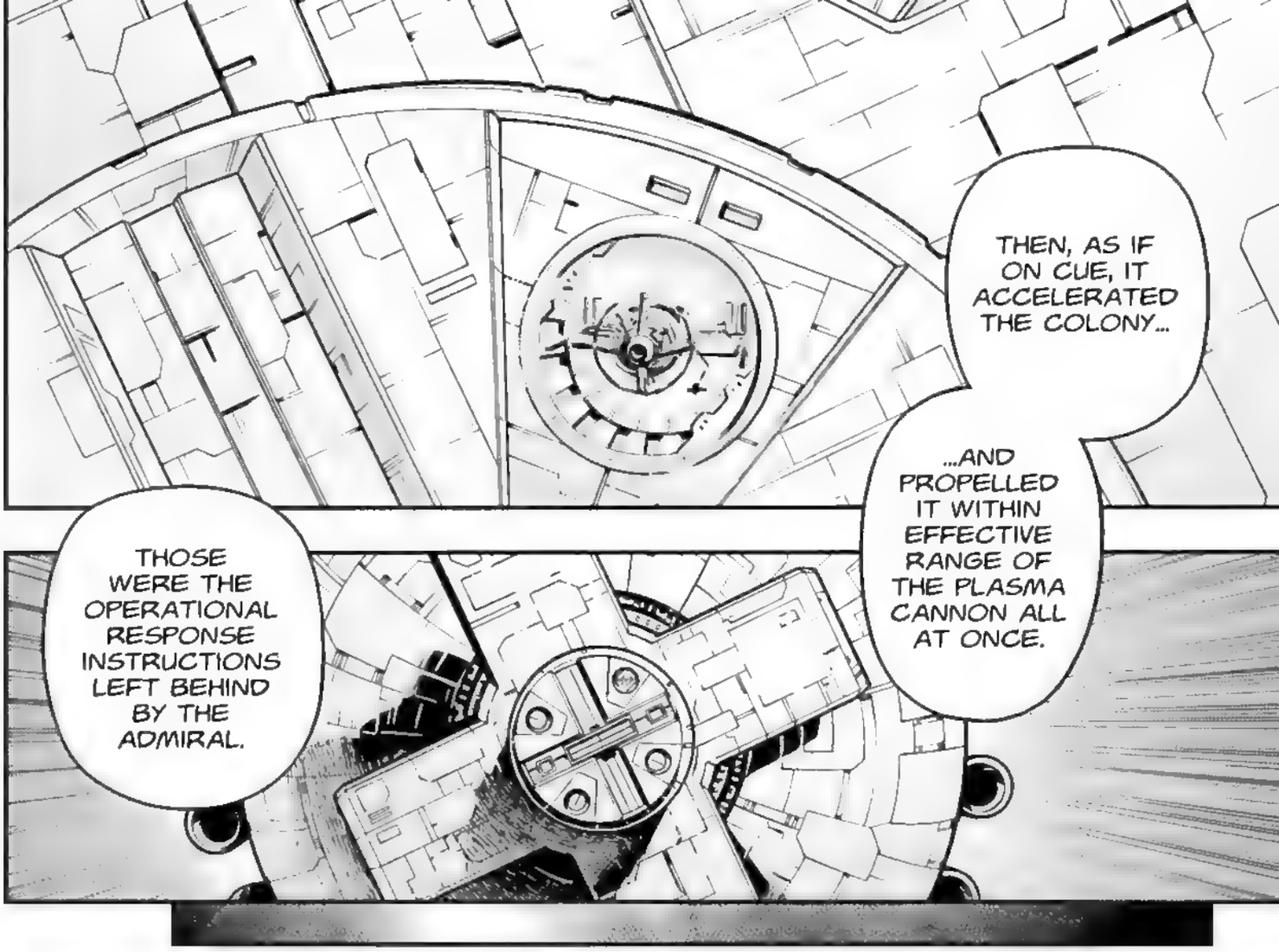
IF I CAN GET A CLOSER LOOK AT THE PROGRAM...
...I CAN SEE WHAT GATO IS ABOUT TO DO.
SIR, THE COLONY IS STARTING TO ACCEL-ERATE!
HMPH! SO THEY THINK THEY'LL JUST INCREASE THEIR SPEED AND PUNCH THROUGH THE FOCAL ATTACK, EH?

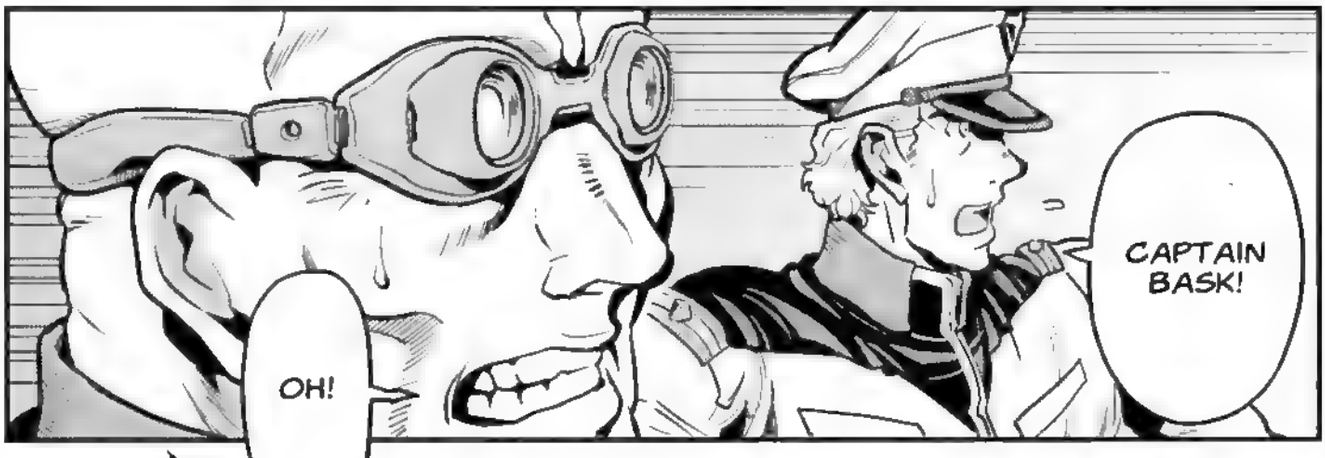
INSTRUCT THE CONTROL SHIP TO FINE-TUNE THE SOLAR SYSTEM II'S FOCAL ANGLE!
WE'LL MAKE OUR ATTACK ON THE COLONY AT MAXIMUM OUTPUT!

THE OUTLINE OF THIS OPERATION...
...IS TO DESTROY THE MIRROR'S OPERATING FUNCTIONS TO PREVENT FOCUSED ATTACKS FROM THE ENEMY. THAT'S THE OBJECTIVE.
AS YOU SAY, SIR.
THE PROBLEM IS THE DIFFICULTY IN LOCATING THE CONTROL SHIP.

IN ORDER TO LOCATE THE CONTROL SHIP'S POSITION...
...WE HAD TO CHANGE THE ANGLE OF THE MIRRORS...
...WHICH IS WHY COMMANDER GATO USED HIMSELF AS BAIT...
...AND LET THE SOLAR SYSTEM FIRE.
TO CONTROL THE ANGLE OF THE MIRRORS...
...THEY'D HAVE TO SEND SIGNAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THEM, WHICH IS OVER 40KM LONG.
BUT, THE SIGNALS ARE ALSO DAMPENED BY MINOVSKY PARTICLES, CAUSING A DELAY OF A FEW TENTHS OF A SECOND...
...WHICH IN TURN IS REFLECTED IN THE MOVEMENT OF THE MIRRORS LIKE A RIPPLE SPREADING ON THE WATER'S SURFACE.

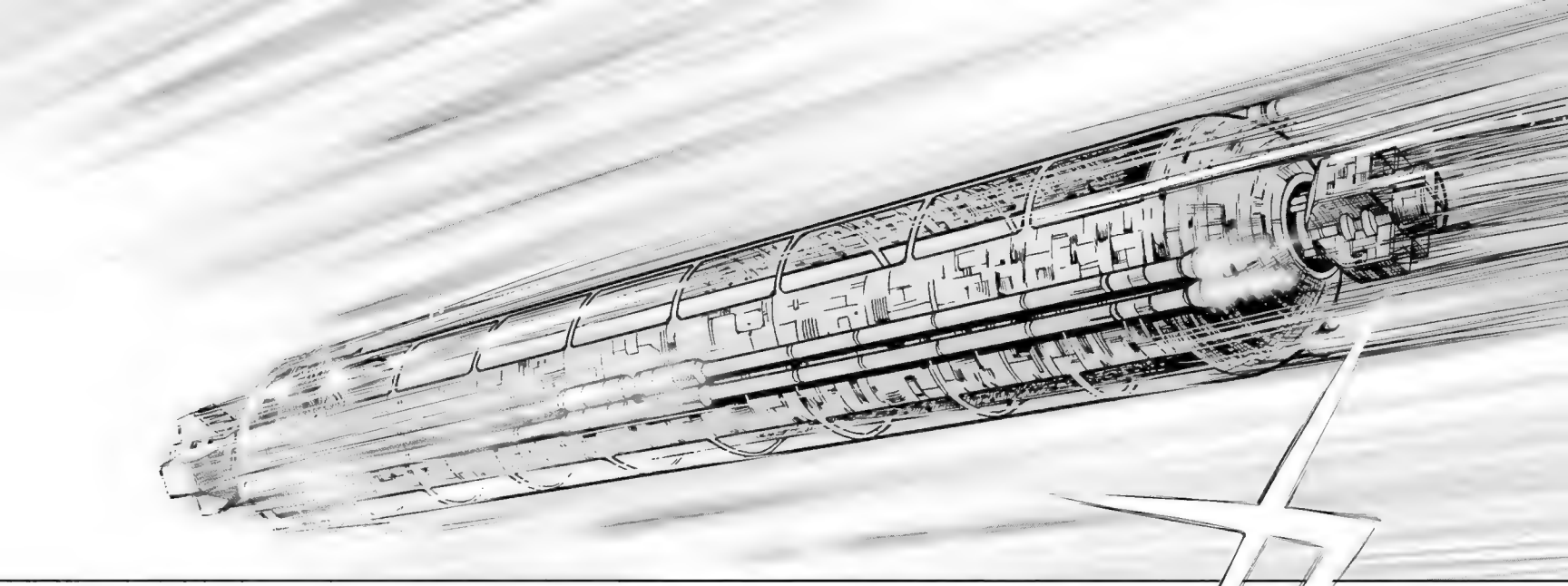
THE SERPENT'S EYE DIDN'T MISS. IT LOCKED ON.
THE JORMUN-GAND KAI...
ITS SUPERIOR OPTICAL RANGE FINDER DETECTED THE REFLECTION OF THE MIRROR...
...AND DETERMINED THE POSITION OF THE CONTROL SHIP LURKING IN THE CENTER OF THE "LIGHT RIPPLES."

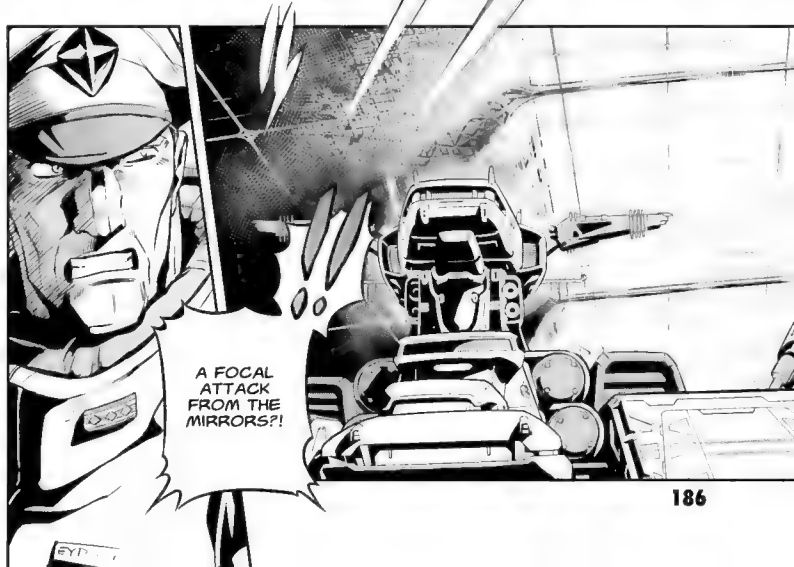

THEN, AS IF ON CUE, IT ACCELERATED THE COLONY...
...AND PROPELLED IT WITHIN EFFECTIVE RANGE OF THE PLASMA CANNON ALL AT ONCE.
THOSE WERE THE OPERATIONAL RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS LEFT BEHIND BY THE ADMIRAL.


CAPTAIN BASK!

OH!
I CAN SEE THE COLONY WITH MY OWN EYES!

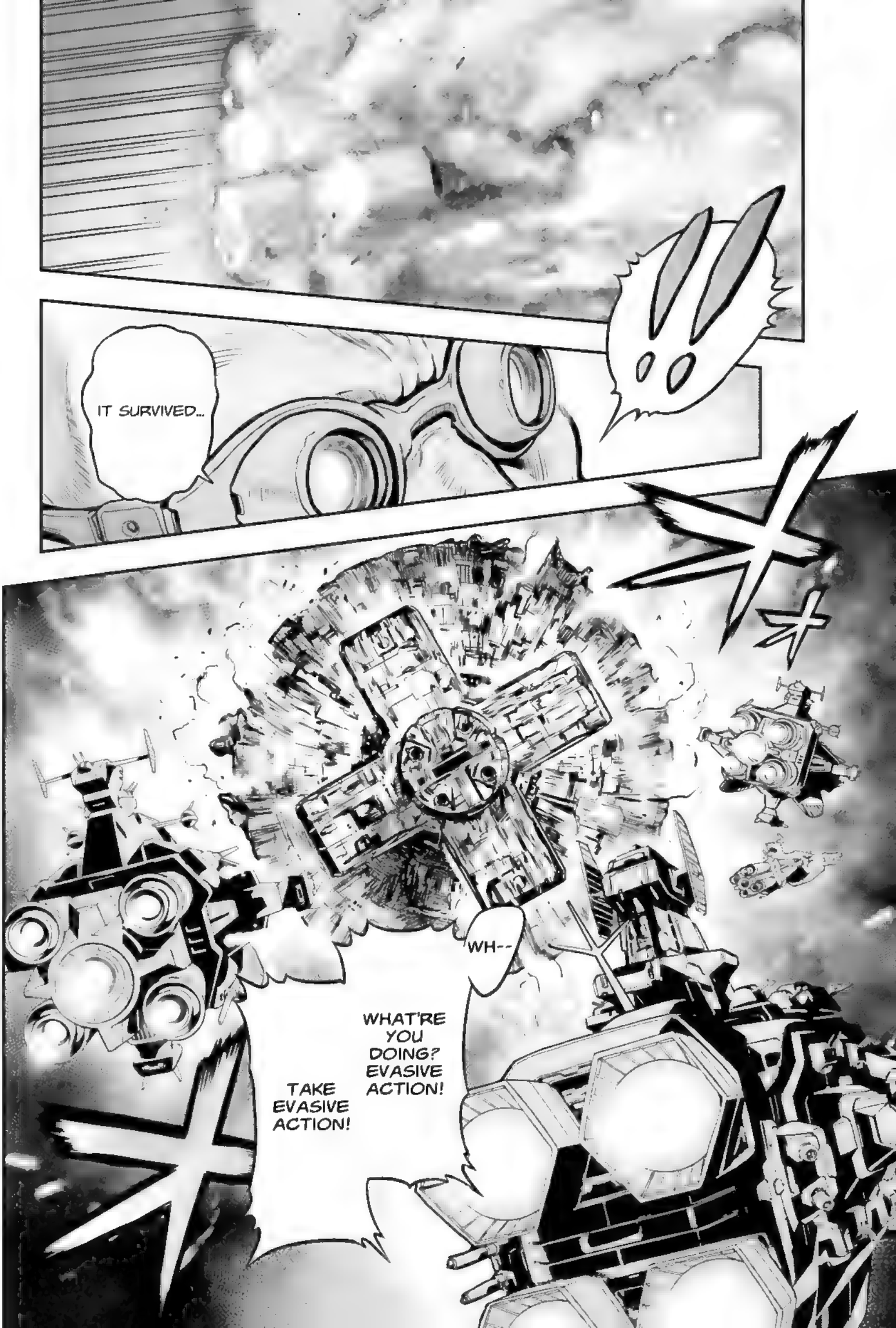
SOLAR SYSTEM II
FOCUS!




A FOCAL ATTACK FROM THE MIRRORS?!

INCINERATE IT!!

HMPH! WHERE THE HELL WERE THEY AIMING?
NOTHING BUT A FUTILE RESIS-TANCE!
THE SOLAR SYSTEM'S CONTROL SHIP HAS BEEN DESTROYED!
WE DON'T HAVE CONTROL OF THE MIRRORS!
THE COLONY...
DID WE DESTROY THE COLONY?!


IT SURVIVED...
WH--
WHAT'RE YOU DOING? EVASIVE ACTION!
TAKE EVASIVE ACTION!

TURN TO PORT!
TURN TO PORT!
うわあああ!!
BUT THAT'S...
THE COLONY HAS...
!!

Chapter.72 [Eye of the Serpent] END

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